



WHEN

PAGE 21



TIMES

NIGELLA LAWSON Divorce, boarding schools and fussy eating PAGE 21

EU rebate funds £20 fuel handout

Brown bonus for the old and young

BY PHILIP WEBSTER POLITICAL EDITOR

GORDON BROWN sweetened an austere message on pay and spending yesterday with a surprise £400 million to help pensioners with winter fuel bills. And he tried to bills. And he tried to defuse a backbench revolt by promising single parents E300 million for the founding of child care clubs for a million

The populist announcements came in the Chancellor's first draft Budget aimed at ending some of the secrecy surrounding the real thing.

Through an unexpected switch of funds some £400 million saved from Britain's planned payments to the European Union budget will hand every pensioner household £20 extra to help with their fuel bills this winter and next, regardless of the weather. Elderly people on income

support will get £50. In what he called the biggest ever investment in child care some 30,000 new out-of school clubs, providing places for nearly a million children over five years, are to be set up and. 50,000 young people are to be offered training as childcarers welfare-to-work.

cost will be met eventually from the National Lottery's new opportunities fund for health and education projects.

Ministers spent the weekend working on the plan which has been accelerated because of the deep unease among Labour MPs about planned Ell-a-week cuts in one parent benefits which are saving some £200 million. There were indications last night that Mr Brown had gone some way to meeting backbench concern

In another announcement

Chancellor's speech Peter Riddell Leading article
ACT abolished State of the natio

brought forward from the Budget, VAT on home insulation grants is being cut from 17.5 per cent to 5 per cent, a move that Mr Brown said will benefit some 40,000 homes.

The Chancellor also announced that corporation tax would be cut by another I per cent in 1999 to 30 per cent — a disclosure designed to help industry plan ahead.

He made clear that advance corporation tax would be abolished in April 1999, with companies moving over to a system of paying corporation tax by quarterly instalments from that date, a change the Conservatives later claimed would cost business £2 billion

Promising the integration of tax and benefits Mr Brown confirmed that he was consid-Most of the £300 million ering the introduction of tax credits for working families on low incomes, a system thought to be similar to the American earned income tax credits.

Mr Brown delivered a strong warning to the unions to be moderate. He said: "It is in no one's interest if today's pay rise threatens to become iomorrow's mortgage rise." It would, he said, be the worst form of short-termism to pay ourselves more today at the cost of fewer jobs tomorrow and lower living standards inthe very near future." He said that "wage responpaying to achieve jobs and properity in the long-term. And he hammered home his message by revealing that he had met the heads of the

public sector review bodies, which recommend pay of doctors, nurses, and millions of public sector workers, to spell out "the choices before us." He made it plain that he

expected bosses to set an example: "in the interests of all there must be moderation not excess and where an example should be set." Mr. Brown spoke for just 30

minutes and there were none of the detailed tax and spending annouccemtns that characterise the Budget. The Commons was only about two thirds full.

Mr Brown maintained the Chancellor's right of springing a surprise with his package for pensioners. He had emphasised the Government's record on helping pensioners with fuel bills by highlighting the July Budger's cuts to VAT on fuel and heating.
"At the moment, although

the poorest do get some help through cold weather payments, these phyments only go to those on income support generally have to wait until after the cold weather until help is available." To Labour cheers he said the Government was "simply not prepared to allow another winter to go by when pensioners are fearful of turning up their heating because they do not know whether they will have the help they need".

take-up by the poorest pensioners. Mr Brown again committed himself to a tax starting rate of 10p in the pound but not to the Continued on page 2, col 1

were both acceptable for 14-

However David Hawker,

head of curriculum and as-

sessment at the Onalifications

and Assessment Authority. said: "Strictly speaking, pupils should be between levels five

and six because they should be

going forward at the pace of

one level every two years from

level four at 11."

The QCA would send schools further guidance on

The Institute of Manage-

and numeracy.

tests in years to come."

There will also be a series of

pilot projects designed to en-

courage an improved benefits

Homework under way for seven and eight-year-olds at the William Wilberforce after-school club in Clapham, South London, yesterday Clubs where children learn and play

CHILDREN at the William Wilberforce after-school club in Clapham; South London, can do their homework, play or just run around until their they have finished work. The centre is run private

BY MARK HENDERSON

and costs £35 a week with trained childminders collecting about 20 children from several schools near by. The Chancellor's announce ment yesterday of a £300 million investment in such clubs

would create a national

network. The cash would be used for start-up costs and most parents would still have to pay, but less well-off families will he subsidised and the poorest will get free care, under cur-

rent benefit arrangements.

More than 150,000 children aged between 5 and 12 now attend the 3,500 after-school clubs, but only 2 per cent of

Sainsbury



*I'm all for these after-school clubs -I've just put my name down for the Garrick"

children have access to the dubs or a holiday playscheme, despite rapidly growing demand from working parents. In Sweden, where such schemes have run successfully for decades, more than 45 per cent of children have a place.

Under existing schemes,

parents pay between £15 and £40 to have their children collected from school by a trained childminder and looked after until they get back from work. Some centres open

early in the morning.
Other groups offer all-day clubs during the school holidays, usually costing about £35 to £40 a week, which organise activities and day

Roger and Christine Paxton, both civil servants, drop their children Katie, 8, and Francesca. 6, at the William Wilberforce Centre before school and pick them up at 6pm. The overwhelming benefit is that it allows both of us to work, but it also provides a stimulating atmosphere for the children to have a quiet time for home-work and some letting loose, running around and causing

mayhem," Mr Paxton said. Anthony Jackson, a cash and credit offical at House of, Fraser, said his daughters

she said. "It is a fantastic day Esther, 9, and Ruth, 6, had improved greatly at school since they started at the club. parents." "The teachers at their school

are very happy with the club because it is not just a play centre, it is more play-as-youlearn," he said, adding: "They get an extra education, with a French club, and regular trips out to the library as well as chance to have fun with their

Anne Longfield, director of the Kids' Clubs Network, a London-based charity which represents after-school play-schemes, said the Chancellor was right to invest in the groups. "We believe there is at least demand for an afterschool dub for each of Britain's 25,000 primary schools, and he plans to set up 30,000,"

for children and working She expects the 30,000 new

clubs to be attached to primary schools, where costs could be kept low, facilities already existed and demand was greatest. The investment would help to offset costs that could be prohibitive for parents, she said.

Joanne Charman, a play worker at the club, said it allowed parents peace of mind. The children are picked up at 3.30, they get a hot meal and the chance to socialise and also get started on their homework," she said. They stay off the streets and out of trouble, and get loads of opportunities to learn and

Denning, OM Lord Denning, the former Master of the Rolls, who is 98. has been appointed to the Order of Merit. Other new members are Sir Norman Fos-ter and Sir Denis RookePage 9

Guard for Adams

The Sinn Fein MPs Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness are being offered taxpayer-funded protection after a government decision to admit the party to a programme that guards public figures...Page 2

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Pupils fail to make the grade at 14

BY DAVID CHARTER, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

ALMOST half of 14 year olds history, 29 per cent in geogra-fail to make the grade in phy, 23 per cent in design and history, geography and tech-nology, according to the first results published for every ures for children reaching national curriculum subject. Achievement in information technology was particularly low, with only 18 per cent of 14-year-olds doing better than was expected for their age.

There was also further evidence of how far boys lag behind girls, with 62 per cent of girls but just 50 per cent of boys reaching the expected level in history. Similar gaps appear in geography, design and modern languages.

Results for eight subjects

were published yesterday, based on teachers' own assessment of their pupils' progress

this summer.
They followed the results of national tests in September in the "core" subjects, which show 56 per cent of 14-year-olds reached level five or better in English and 60 per cent in both mathematics and science. Children at 14 are expected to be between levels five and six of the national curriculum.

Yesterday's results showed just 50 per cent reached level five in information technology, 56 per cent in history and in design technology, 38 per cent in geography and 59 per cent in modern foreign

Level five or better was recorded in art by 73 per cent. music (6) per cent) and physical education (7) per cent). Level six was reached by 28 per cent of 14-year-olds in

attacked by bomber

BY STEWART TENDLER CRIME CORRESPONDENT

THE self-styled 'Mardi Gra' bomber targeted two Sainsbury's stores yesterday in his campaign to extort cash from businesses. One device exploded but no-one was level five at 14 as reaching "expected" levels. A spokesman for Estelle Morris, a Schools Standards Minister. insisted that level five and six

The bomber has planted at least 30 devices since 1994. He originally targeted Barclays Bank but turned on Sainsbury's last year. He has also threatened Tesco's. Yesterday one of the devices exploded on the drive-way of a dilapidated home in Red Hill, Chislehusst. Kent, about 500 yards from a Sainsbury's store and near a primary school. It may have been left with a note asking for it to be returned to the store. A blackened

how to help improvement in IT and for boys generally, he cassette box was found by said. "Certainly we will be patrolling police officers. The second device was hidden in a Sainsbury's bug looking for improvement in future years. I would not want to put a figure on it, but a substantial proportion of pupis should be at level five." of groceries found in a bus stop at Lee Green in Lewigham, south London. A woman took the bag into the Business leaders said pupils had to do "far better", especialsupermarket but staff became alarmed when they saw the cassette and called

ment said IT skills were now police. Two weeks ago three deas important as basic literacy vices were left outside super-A spokesman added: We markets in Greenford and will have to do far better in West Ealing, west London. One shopper was slightly injured. The incendiaries this area, because this is where companies are investing, and where future competwere hidden inside video cassette boxes with a messitiveness lies. We will be looking for a significant image that a reward would be provement in achievement in

Saddam 'could kill everyone on Earth'

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

THE United Nations believes that Saddam Hussein may have produced enough of the deadly VX chemical weapon to kill everyone on Earth, William Cohen, the US Defence

Secretary, said yesterday.

**Originally, the Iraqis indicated they had just a small quantity of VX. One drop on your finger will produce death in a matter of a few moments. Now, the UN believes that Saddam may have produced as much as 200 tons. And this, theoretically, would be enough to kill every man woman and child on the face of the Earth."

Mr Cohen accused Iraq of continuing to deceive UN weapons inspectors as the Pentagon disclosed that Saddam's intelligence agents had spied on the inspection teams both this year and last. Presenting a military report on the international threat of miclear, biological and chemi-

Saddam: accused of

cal weapons proliferation, Mr Cohen pointedly contested suggestions by Russia that inspections end quickly; that Iraq be declared disarmed;

and that senctions be eased.

"Iraq continues to evade and deceive United Nations inspectors who are working to destroy lraq's programme to build these weapons of mass destruction. This is a longterm project," Mr Cohen said. Emphasising that the US was still maintaining military action as a last option against continued deceptions by the Iraqi Government, Mr Cohen

said that any future strike would not be a "pinprick". The Pentagon said it be-lieved that Iraqi agents could eavesdrop electronically on United Nations Special Commission (Unscom) teams and said that Unscom members may be under surveillance

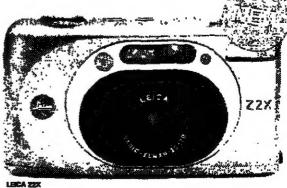
and during trips to Baghdad.
American U2 spy planes have provided evidence that the Iraqis often knew of the inspections, moving swiftly to hide caches of weapons.

both at the UN in New York

Ken Bacon, the Pentagon spokesman, said: "The missions have from time to time been compromised. Unscom does not announce its targets in advance but the tracis have found a way to figure out

where they're going." The Pentagon believes this may provide an explanation for Iraq's threats to shoot down the U2 flights on the day Baghdad barred Americans

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Tory bunnies caught in the beam of Brown's juggernaut

yesterday, the Tory benches stared at him as if mesmerised. These were not the massed ranks of a well-armed Opposition spoiling for the fight. They were more like a hunch of rabbits. frozen in the headlights of an

oncoming political juggernaut.
That the Chancellor appeared to have nothing of importance to say - or that the Shadow Chancellor, Peter Lilley, brought a prickly little list of questions to which Mr Brown seemed to have few answers - hardly mattered. What mattered was com-mand. Brown had command.

the Chancellor spoke his own side cheered - and the Opposition fell silent. When Lilley spoke Labour just laughed. Gordon Brown's presenta-

tional skills have been transformed over the last year. He used to be boring and deafening; now he is just boring. He used to thunder; now he just rumbles. He used to sound positively suicidal; now he just sounds faintly grumpy. He used to seem gripped by some black and fathomless internal rage: now he just looks cross.

Joking apart, the Chancellor's delivery is more deft than



POLITICAL SKETCH

lighter touch and stopped thumping the table. Most important, he sounds confident and sure of his ground.

He sounded so yesterday. Mr Brown has his favourite phrases, and they were brandished with aplomb. Boom and bust," was repeated three times, with a sort of presbyterian foreboding, hitting the boom with resonance and the bust with relish. Another fa-

vourite - "when it is prodent to do so" - was delivered in the oak-lined, copper-bottomed tones of a Scottish mutual society's senior fundmanager, though the effect here was somewhat marred by Mr Brown's placing one hand on his rump, elbow out, in the "I'm-a-little-teapot" pose he has an unwitting habit of adopting.

And there is a problem with the Chancellor's pronuncia-

tion of "prudence". In his guiped delivery the word sounds like "prunes". Thus his next remark to the Liberal Democrat Treasury Spokesman, Malcolm Bruce, confused us: "Let me remind him," roared Brown, "what his own leader said about fiscal prunes." We scratched our heads. The Chancellor explained further. "So here is the Leader of the Liberal Party saying there had to be fiscal prunes!"

But, like some latter-day emperor, the effect of Mr Brown is to stun us all into silence - and if he seems to have no clothes, we are not so

How else could the Chancellor have got away yesterday with taunting Peter Lilley over his party's defeat at the Winchester by election last week? "From two, to minus 22,000," he jeered — of the Tories' lost majority. Labour fell about The Opposition fell

But (as Malcolm Bruce timidly reminded us some time later) it was to the Liberal Democrats that the Tories lost Labour's vote fell from six thousand to nine hundred. their lowest share of the vote since the war. Not that this bothered Brown. "They are.

felt in this House ... he boomed at cowering Liberals. "they should go back to their constituencies and prepare to adapt to reality."
That (to Labour cheers)

Gordon Brown could trumpet the Winchester result at the Tories without a squeak of protest, then tear a strip off the party which actually won Winchester, is a measure both of his command, and Opposition demoralisation. Brown swung his beam off the benches opposite and swept from the Chamber, fifty rabbits scuttled for hedgerows.

NEWS IN BRIEF Hindley is condemned by Brady

Ian Brady, who is serving life for the Moors murders, has accused his accomplice, Myra Hindley, of "marginalising" her role in the killings of two victims as part of her attempt to gain freedom. He has condemned her attempts to get parole as "synthetic innocence" designed to trick the gullible.

In a letter to Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, Brady says that any decision to give Hindley, 53, parole must be based on facts, rather than the fable" invented by her supporters. Brady is in Ashworth top security mental hospital at Maghull, Merseyside.

Singer's funeral

Final preparations for the funeral tomorrow of Michael Hutchence, the Australian rock singer, were being made in Sydney yesterday. Relatives, including his father, Kell, visited the city's St Andrew's cathedral to supervise arrangements for the service. The funeral will be broadcast live on Australian television.

Editor returns

Harold Evans, a former editor of The Times and president since 1990 of the Random House Trade Group, is returning to newspapers. Mr Evans, 69, will shortly take over as editorial director and vice-chairman of the American newspaper conglomerate owned by Mortimer Zuck-erman and Fred Drasner.

EMI being sued

The record company EMI is being sued for £60 million over allegations that it failed to hand over 50 per cent of all royalties for songs such as Congratulations by Cliff Richard. The test action may help 1,000 songwriters, all of whom signed with independent music publishers subsequently taken over by EMI.

Soap actor sorry

Sid Owen - Ricky Butcher in the BBC soap EastEnders publicly apologised to his aunt, Carol Sullivan, and paid her "substantial" libel damages, over newspaper allega-tions that she "ripped him off" when he was a child and that she was his legal guardian. He apologised at the High Court A Section 19 Section 14

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See go

Taxpayers to fund the protection of Sinn Fein MPs

By Martin Fletcher, Chief Ireland correspondent, and Nicholas Watt

THE Sinn Fein MPs Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness are being offered taxpayer-funded protection after a government decision to admit the party to a programme that guards public figures from terrorist attacks. Up to 73 Sinn Fein councillors also now plan to apply for protection, a party spokesman said last night.

In another decision that will please republicans, all daytime army foot patrols in West Belfast are to be suspended from today. Sinn Fein leaders, facing grassroots discontent with their "peace strategy", have been demanding "demilitarisation" of this sort since the IRA ceasefire on July 20.

The Sinn Fein representatives will ask the Northern Ireland Office to fortify their homes with bullet and bombproof doors and windows, infra-red beams, alarm systerns and car booby-trap detectors. As MPs, Mr Adams and Mr McGuinness may also ask for armour-plated cars and sidearms, a Sinn Fein spokesman said last night. Sinn Fein's admission to the

Key Persons Protection Scheme was greeted with a mixture of outrage and wry amusement by Ulster Unionists, but a big obstacle must be overcome before any representatives of the IRA's political wing — besides its two MPs —

can receive protection. The Royal Ulster Constabulary must assess the threat to each applicant, and Sinn Fein insists it will have nothing to do

with the force. The scheme was established to protect judges, MPs, and others whose assassinations would undermine Northern Ireland's "democratic framework" or the "maintenance of.

law and order". Sinn Fein had "joined the democratic process and they should be enitled to protection if their life is under threat," said Mo Mowlam, the Northern Ireland Secretary.

William Hague is facing mounting pressure from Conservatives to step up his at-tacks on Tony Blair in the wake of the Prime Minister's decision to invite Mr Adams to Downing Street.

Senior backbenchers and at least one former Northern Ireland Secretary are questioning the Conservatives' bipartisan support for the Government because they are furious with Mr Blair for appeasing Sinn Fein.

One senior Tory said: "It is concession after concession to Sinn Fein-IRA."

One source close to the Tory leadership said that Lord Mayhew, the last Northern Ireland Secretary, was exas-perated with the Govern-

ment's policy. The source said Lord Mayhew has become so angry he has to be regularly "hosed down".

Past Sinn Fein attempts to get protection were rejected despite several fatal attacks on its officials by loyalist paramilitaries. At that time it overtly supported IRA vio-lence. It presently provides its own crude protection - including very obvious body-guards — for its leaders, but the Northern Ireland Office signalled its change of policy last week by agreeing to secure the West Belfast home

> Sinn Fein councillor. Mr Maskey was seriously injured by a loyalist gunman in 1987 and a workman was shot dead while fortifying his home in 1993. Jim Gibney of Sinn Fein's national executive. called the Maskey decision "a breakthrough". Peter Robinson, the Demo

of Alex Maskey, a leading

cratic Unionist Party MP, said it was "an absurdity that the people from whom most of the community is having to pro-tect itself should be funded to protect their own hides".

Betty Boothroyd, Speaker of the House of Commons, has agreed to meet Mr Adams and Mr McGuinness on Decem-

ber 4 to discuss their renewed

request for the use of West-

Labour says it can do nothing to stop pit closures

BY NICHOLAS WATT AND CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

LABOUR admitted vesterday that it is powerless to save thousands of mining jobs which are in jeopardy, raising fears for the long term future of the coal industry.

John Battle, the Energy

Minister, infuriated miners

when he said there were "no levers in government hands" miners whose jobs are at risk.

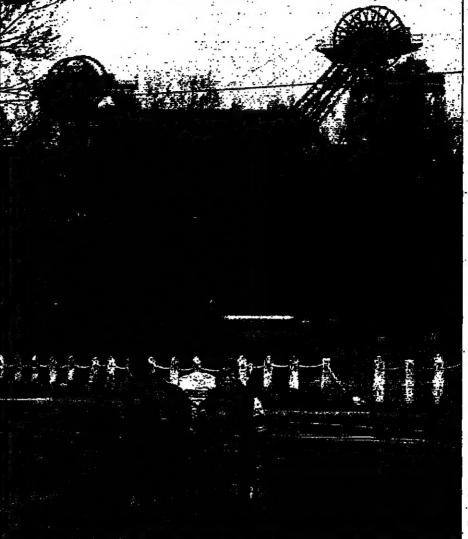
Mr Battle blamed the Tories for removing the Govern-ment's negotiating position when it privatised the industry. He told BBC Radio 4's The World At One. "We are not in a negotiating position because the whole of the industry has been privatised. That leaves no levers in Government hands - that's

the difficulty. If you say I'm blaming the last Government,

that's just the truth of what

happened." His remarks enraged scores of miners who descended on Parliament from across the country yesterday to demand immediate Government action to save the coal industry. At a packed meeting in Partiament Mr Battle faced a hostile reception from miners who accused him of doing nothing to save the coal industry.

Mr Battle admitted to the miners that the industry was facing a crisis as he strives to



The mining community in Hatfield Main near Doncaster awaits news of closure

ensure that coal competes on a level playing field with other sources of energy. He said: "I will fight to defend jobs, but re-nationalising the industry

is not an option."

The lobby by the miners. which was organised by the Coalfield Communities Cam-

paign, came after a leaked Department of Trade and Industry paper revealed that ministers are braced for a round of pit closure announcements before Christmas Up to 5,000 jobs could be lost over the next few months, according to figures

based on DTI estimates submitted to the European Combetween RJB Mining - Britain's biggest producer of coal tors expire.

Lessons about drug abuse work, study shows

By DAVID CHARTER **EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT**

CHILDREN taught about cocaine and marijuana at the age of eight are far less likely to smoke or try illegal drugs as young teenagers, Home Office researchers said yesterday. The names and characteris-

tics of common illegal drugs were discussed with primary school children as part of Project Charlie, an American scheme to tackle drug-taking. Details of the research were published as it was disclosed that a nursery school in Newcastle-Upon-Tyne uses a pupper called Dipsi to begin drugs awareness among three and four-year-olds.

All the children in the Home Office study went through a programme of lessons and role-playing to build self-esteem and resist peer group pressure. Details of drugs, including alcohol and tobacco, were introduced at the end of the year-long course. Four years after the weekly sessions for eight, nine and ten-yearolds, 30 per cent said they had tried a digarette, compared to 71 per cent of those who not on the project. Four-fifths of children in both categories had tried an alcoholic drink, but just 5 per cent of youngsters on the course admitted taking a drug, compared with 14 per cent of their peers.

George Howarth, a Home Office Minister, said he would pass the findings to Keith Hellawell, the Government's 'drugs czar'.

MP accuses trusts of lying to ombudsman BY IAN MURRAY, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

cused yesterday of lying to the Health Service Ombudsman in order to cover up their mistakes. Rhodi Morgan, MP

HOSPITAL trusts were ap-

for Cardiff West, made the claim when he chaired a meeting of the Commons Select Committee on Public Administration.

"Trusts keep telling fibs," he said. "This is something which keeps going on. They have no hesitation in trying to flam it up or tell outright lies." The committee was hearing

about two cases where hospi-tals had not given accurate answers to Michael Buckley,

man, about the way they dealt with complaints. In one, at Newham, in east London, the hospital had failed to answer five letters from a son asking why his father died three hours after he was discharged from hospital. In the other, Addenbrooke's,

the Health Service Ombuds-

in Cambridge, a woman waited seven months for the hospital to make an eye-assessment appointment for her somewhere else and then waited over a year to be told what

went wrong. Keith Day, the hospital's administrative di-Hospitals to publish

BY IAN MURRAY MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

LEAGUE tables showing how much hospitals charge for different treatments and services are to be published as part of a new strategy for forcing costs down in the National Health Service.

The idea will be put forward in a White Paper to be nublished at the beginning of next month, spelling out how efficiency savings can help to keep the NHS budget down. At present there can be differences of over 20 per cent in the cost of identical treatments in different hospitals serving similar populations in compa-

costs league tables rable areas. The tables will include definitions of what different treatments should be, whether or not they should include pre-assess-ment and aftercare and what

the patient should be able to

expect from the medical

procedures.
The White Paper proposes scrapping the present efficiency index. by which hospi-tals are judged against their cost and patient throughput. The idea is to replace this with criteria designed to show how well hospitals succeed in improving the health of their patients. Targets will disclosed in the Public Health

Green Paper due in January.

"Addenbrooke's arrogance", with the world-famous teaching hospital failing to pay attention to what seemed to be such a minor complaint. The Newham case, Mr Morgan said, was especially bad. If any scriptwriter for Casualty had written this type

mittee that this could be due to

of script it would have been thrown out as too farfetched." The Ombudsman found that one morning in 1994 a locum doctor at the hospital had seen a man brought in man suffering from chest pains. At 5am, after two

electro-cardiograms the doctor discharged him and he died at

His son wrote to the hospital in October 1994 and was sent four holding letters, addressed to his father, over the next six months. it was only the following April that he received a substantive reply and an explanation that the delay was due to the fact the consultant in charge of the accident and emergency department has been trying, in, vain, to trace the locum doctor. This excuse, in fact, was untrue as John Myers, the consultant con-cerned claimed never to have

seen the letters of complaint. The hospital's deputy business manager and nursing director told the Ombudsman that five letters from the complainant had been sent on to the consultant for answer and his secretary had been asked to ensure there was a reply. The consultant, John Myers, said he had never seen them.



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Brown promises bonuses for young and old

Continued from page I timing of its introduction. He also promised further reforms for the low paid in the shape of changes to the National Insurance contributions system, new bus and rail passes for youngsters seeking work and projects to train the young and long-term unemployed by offering them grants of £1,700 and £1,500.

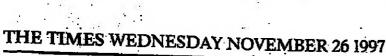
The pre-Budget report published alongside Mr Brown's statement gives a clear hint that the next Budget will include a range of "green"taxes. It says that Mr Borwn will return to transport tax issues after the forthorncing world inter-

national environment conference. A big clampdown on tax avoidance was promised and the Chancellor also underscored Treasury warnings at the weekend that slackening the tough regime of tight fiscal and public spending controls would trigger boom and bust. He admitted that the Government's

deficit had fallen from 4.5 per cent of national income just two years ago to 1.5 per cent this year with a view to 0.75 per cent in 1998-9. But he said: "There is a risk that the structural deficit . . . may turn out to be larger. So we will be both cautious and prudent. "And we will learn the

assumed the structural delicit had disappeared and the penalty was the return of boom and bust. Peter Lilley, the Shadow Chancellor, said he welcomed the good economic

news which he aid was the "golden economic legacy which we bequeathed this Government" and added: They are the fruits of 18 years of Conservative reforms, every one of which the Chancelfor opposed." Mr Lilley claimed the figures published by the Chancellor showed that the tax increases in the July



Spencer says wife would squander millions Lawyers promise further revelations about earl's adultery, report Inigo Gilmore and Daniel McGrory

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Singer's funeral

Lititor returns

LAWYERS for Earl Spencer yester-

day claimed that his estranged wife, Victoria, would "squander" the £3.75 million divorce settlement she

Countess Spencer stared across the Cape Town courtroom at her husband as his legal team argued that, because of her drink and drug-problems and her treatment for anorexia, she could not cope with such a sum of money.

During the second day of an increasingly acrimonious hearing, lawyers for Lady Spencer warned there were yet more damning revelations to come about her husband's alleged infidelities. The earl, brother of Diana, Princess of Wales, has already been branded a "serial adulterer" who told his wife that he had affairs with up to a dozen women in five months while she was in a

clinic fighting alcoholism and eating

Her lawyers say that in a letter to one of his mistresses, the earl confessed to being vicious, cruel and a bully" towards the former model. Outside the court, a spokesman for Lord Spencer said he intended to "strenuously deny" what he called sensational allegations.

The couple sat at opposite ends of a wooden bench in court 17, listening to Lord Spencer's lawyer, Leslie Weinkove, argue that Lady Spencer's recovery programme meant she had to live for one day at a time. There is a question mark over her ability to handle such an award." Lord Spen-cer has offered his 32-year-old wife £300,000 in settlement.

This hearing is to determine whether the divorce case should ultimately be heard in British or

South African courts. Lady Spencer has argued that it should be heard in Britain because the couple are British nationals and the bulk of Lord Spencer's assets are here.

The court was told that Lord Spencer, 33, had a personal fortune of E6 million, plus a family fortune worth £100 million; his annual income after tax was £500,000. He believes a British court would award his estranged wife a settlement that "far exceeds" what she needs to live on with their four children in South

They also referred yesterday to Lady Spencer's 18-month haison with Guy Woods, a 26-year-old pharmacist. Mr Weinkove suggested any settlement would be more difficult to manage if the couple were to marry or have children. Her lawyers told the judge that the £300,000 Lord

Spencer was offering could not hope to buy a decent house in London. Jeremy Posnansky, a British family law expert and one of Lady Spencer's witnesses, told the judge: I'm not an estate agent but I personally think £300,000 would only get a house in a very unattrac-

tive, distant suburb with problems

perhaps of crime."

Asked by the judge, Mr Justice lan Farlam, if the Isle of Dogs in London might be the sort of place where a house could be bought in that price range. Mr Posnansky replied with a smile: The Isle of Dogs is quite fashionable now."

Lord Spencer, dressed in a dark suit and checked shirt, chewed his pen as he listened to his wife's lawyer warning there were more revelations to come about his private life. During a tense exchange with Lord Spencer's barrister, Jeremy Gauntlen. Lady Spencer's lawyer, told the judge: "The misconduct has so far been outlined only, but there is more detail of a very serious kind and if it has to be drawn out, so be it."

Sitting ten feet away in a black jumper and black skirt, Lady Spencer smiled and chatted with members of her legal team as details of her £3.75 million claim was raked over by experts. Apart from the lump sum payment, she is asking for a house in both England and South Africa, and a car. Lord Spencer is offering a maintenance payment that reflects the lower cost of living in South

Last night, Lord Spencer was seeking a court injunction to stop the South African press from reporting the proceedings, which continue



Countess Spencer: is demanding £3.75m

Supergrass names 'Guerin's killers'

By AUDREY MAGEE, TRELAND CORRESPONDENT

THE investigative journalist dare court on June 26 last for the murder of Ms Guerin. Veronica Guerin was killed because she refused to withdraw assault charges against a man at the centre of a Dublin drug-dealing opera-tion, a court was told yester-

Ireland's first supergrass said yesterday that he prepared the gun that was used and saw the weapon when the hitmen returned; from the

Charles Bowden told Dublin Special Criminal Court that he heard three men discuss plans to shoot the 36year-old reporter. He said the attack was in revenge for the journalist's decision to bring. assault charges against a Dublin drug dealer. It was the second time that the gang had attacked the journalist, who wrote extensively about Dub-

lin criminals. Bowden, who is the first Irish criminal to turn against. his associates to give state evidence under a new witness protection scheme, said that the .357 Magnum pistol and 12 "dum-dum" bullets used in the murder had been smuggled into Ireland with a consignment of cannabis.

He said that he had heard the three men discuss Mis-Guerin's appearance at a Kilyear. Ms Guerin was shot at least five times by a pillion passenger on a motorcycle that pulled up beside her car as she returned from the court.

Bowden, who said he was not "heavy stuff", told the court he believed the plan was to injure Ms Guerin. He did not expect the gang to kill her. "Just shot or shot at, as had happened on a previous occassion. Intimidated, in oth-

er words," he said. Bowden, 32, has been given unconditional and irrevocable immunity from prosecution



Guerin: shot as she drove away from court

A former soldier, he was jailed for six years last month for He appeared in court yester day amid tight security and wearing a bullet-proof vest. The court ordered that none of the people he referred to should be identified, because of other proceedings in the Guerin murder case.

The supergrass was giving evidence on the fifth day of the trial of Patrick Holland, 58, of Brittas Bay, Co Wicklow, who denies possession of cannabis for sale or supply between October 1, 1995, and October 6, 1996. Holland was arrested at Dun Laoghaire ferry port last April by a Garda who believed that he killed Ms Guerin. The hearing continues.

□ In Amsterdam, Brian Meehan, 31, yesterday contested his extradition to Ireland where he faces trial for alleged involvement in Ms Guerin's

Irish police allege that Meehan drove the motorcycle that pulled up alongside Ms Guerin's car. Meehan told the Dutch court that he was innocent and, because of extensive media coverage, would not get a fair trial in Ireland. Judges will decide on his extradition on December 9.



THIS rare giass cup from the time of the Emperor Nero fetched £496,500 yesterday at Christie's, where it had a special family link for the auctioneers' antiquities specialist, Camilla Bridgeman, pictured with it. The 34 in

cup is known as the Constable-

Maxwell Skyphos after her great uncle and appt. Andrew and Nicky Constable-Maxwell, who once had it in their collection. It last changed hands for £295,000 in 1986. Yesterday's seller and buyer were anonymous. The finely ornamented drinking cup

dates from the 1st century and shows two charioteers orging on their teams It possibly belonged to Nero, a keen charioteer and collector of cameo glass The method used to fuse cut white glass on to the transfuscent blue of the vessel is still not fally known.

Woodward faces jail in appeal on verdict

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN

LOUISE WOODWARD could be returned to prison by the end of next week after an appeal yesterday to the Su-preme Judicial Court in Massachusetts against the British

Prosecution lawyers have asked for a "stay order" against the verdict earlier this month by Judge Hiller B. Zobel, under which Miss Woodward was freed.

If the prosecution is successful she will be returned to prison pending the appeal on the substance of Judge Zobel's decision. A hearing has been scheduled tentatively for De-

Staring that Judge Zobel had "abused the broad discretion" accorded to him by the Massachusetts Rules of Criminai Procedure, the prosecution also asked the Court to overrule the verdict.

Judge Zobel is also criticised for transforming the jury ver-dict of second-degree murder into "what amounted to an

acquittal".
The prosecution also argues that Judge Zobel's discarding of the jury's verdict "under-mines the very foundation" of the criminal justice system.

Council cleared 'Judy X' attacker

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

LOCAL authorities yesterday won the right to distribute closed-circuit television footage to the media after the High Court ruled that a council had the power to release film of a man intent on suicide carrying a knife.

But Mr Justice Harrison called for effective guidance to be issued on the release of footage in an attempt to prevent future "undesirable inva-

In a judgment with impor-tant implications for civil liberties, the High Court judge ruled that Brentwood Borough Council did not go wrong in law or act irrationally when it provided film copies of Geoffery Peck, 42, a van driver, to broadcasters. The film was shown on

television, including BBC's Crime Beat and on Anglia TV, without Mr Peck's features being properly masked. He was identified by friends and neighbours.

neignbours.

The judge said that, in August 1995, Mr Peck, of Brentwood, was suffering from severe depression and kitchen knife, although he was only shown on television walk-ing in the High Street carrying

At the time, Mr Peck had lost his job and his partner, the mother of his young daughter, had recently been diagnosed as terminally ill. In his ruling the judge said that the council did have

circuit television film to show the public how successful the system was for the prevention and detection of crime in

public places. He added: "However, if I am right and the council does have nower to distribute footage, there may on occasions be undesirable invasions of a person's privacy.

"Unless and until there is a general right of privacy recog-nised by English law — and, the indications are, there may soon be by incorporation of the European Convention on Human Rights into law reliance must be placed on effective guidance being issued by codes of practice in order to try and stop such undesirable invasions of a

person's privacy."

He dismissed Mr Peck's application for judicial review, cked by the pressure group Liberty, but said important lessons could be learned "from this unfortunate incident.

He added: "Maybe with the benefit of hindsight the council will want to see whether they can tighten up their guidelines and seek to avoid a similar incident in the future."

Both the Independent Television Commission and the **Broadcasting Standards Com**mission held that, through human error, there had been infringements of Mr Peck's privacy. Philip Leach, solicitor for Liberty, said an appeal would be considered.

over TV footage jailed for fraud

By SHIRLEY ENGLISH

ty worker "Judy X" five years ago while posing as a priest was jailed for three years yesterday on three fraud

charges involving women. John Cronin, 26, of Tranent, East Lothian, admitted posing as a businessman, an Irish politician and a doctor to trick women into spending time alone with him in Edinburgh. His defence claimed that he did it to enhance his selfesteem, but the prosecution alleged that the crimes followed a long and disturbing pattern of behaviour and that he had been sexually motivat-

ed. At the time of the offences he was on probation after being convicted in June of causing anxiety and inconve-nience to five female Tory party activists.



A VIOLENT sex offender who tence sparked criticism from women's pressure groups because he decided against remitting Cronin to the High Court for a longer sentence and instead gave him the maximum jail term possible in a Sheriff Court, with a year's probation and psychological

counselling on his release. He said that, in view of Cronin's previous convictions, his latest crimes were not just bizarre but "chilling". It was particularly disturbing that Cronin had obtained one woman's name and address while posing as a member of the Jenners family, who run a leading Edinburgh depart-

land's most notorious criminals five years ago when he was sentenced to life for his attack on the Tory party worker "Judy X". He gained entry to her Edinburgh home by posing as a priest and claiming he wanted to make a donation to the party. He then battered her round the head with a poker, almost throttled her to death and subjected her to a degrading sex attack.

Louise Sharp, legal issues worker at Scotland Women's Aid, said the case should have Court. She said: "This sentence is not long enough. Cronin is a very, very danger-ous man and there is a real risk he is going to seriously burt someone. He is going to



Football pie contest leaves sour taste

magazine competition because of a ham- single nomination last year.

where the cookery writer is a director, are their support. Handwriting experts have been brought in to analyse the nominations, many in blue ballpoint ink and capital letters, which have put Norwich 250-3 ahead of their nearest rivals, Derby

day, the competition organisers are to secure victory. Other factors involved in

PIES sold at the ground of Delia Smith's believe many of the nominations come football club may be disqualified from a from one fan. Norwich failed to win a

fisted effort to fix the result.

The competition is organised by Total
The Norfolk pies of Norwich City. Football, whose editor, Richard Jones, said yesterday: "It would appear there where the cookery whier is a threat in has been a blatant vote-rigging attempt.

under suspicion after a flood of letters in has been a blatant vote-rigging attempt.

We will be contacting Delia Smith to see what the dub has to say about it."

Mervyn Philpott, the catering manager at Norwich's Carrow Road ground, has the pies made to his recipe and sells them for £1.20. The number of public With more letters flooding in every nominations does not automatically

hold a disciplinary hearing to decide if the judges' decision include price and the club should be disqualified. They flavour.

The competition has serious implications for the winner. Last year's champion at the Scottish club, Kilmarnock, scored well in increased sales from his victory. "He had to take on ten extra staff to meet demand, the pies sold out every week and they had offers from major supermarket chains," Mr Jones said.

A Norwich City director, Roger Munby, said: "I'm quietly confident that, even without the fraudulent entries, we could have reached the pie-offs. I completely deplore that sort of activity. A victory in such circumstances would be

Sports celebrities team up to decide TV 'crown jewels'

JACK CHARLTON, Steve are to help in deciding which sporting events should be protected for the nation and

They are members of a government review body that will assess whether they should add to the existing eight "crown jewel" events. The eight are the Olympic Games, the lootball World Cup finals, the FA Cup Final, the Scottish FA Cup Final, England cricket Test matches, Wimbledon, the Grand National and the Derby.

If the review body recommends it, they could be joined by other events such as the cricket World Cup, the rugby World Cup, the European Football Championships, the Commonwealth Games, the World Athletics Championships, the British Grand Prix, the Five Nations rugby tournament and two golf events, the Open and the Ryder Cup. A growing number of live events are now covered exclusively by BSkyB, of which News International, the subsidiary of The News Corporation that owns The Times. owns 40 per cent.

Yesterday Chris Smith, the Culture, Media and Sport Secretary, said that to be listed, events would have to have "a special national resonance", not just significance to fains of the sport concerned. They were likely to be of pre-eminent national or international importance, to involve the national team, to command a large television audience and to have a long history of free-to-air broadcast.

He said members of the group, chaired by Lord Gordon of Strathblane, chairman of Scottish Radio Holdings. had been chosen to reflect experience in both sport and broadcasting. "It is a question of getting the right balance ing bodies themselves who for their sport," he said.

Michael Parkinson, the broadcaster and journalist, is a cricket and football fan. Steve Cram, who held the world mile record and won a gold medal at the 1984 World Athletics Championships, is also now a broadcaster. Jack Charlton has had a distin-guished career in football and was in the England team that won the 1966 World Cup.

Other members of the review group are Alastair Burt, former Tory MP for Bury North. Kate Hoey, Labour MP for Vauxhall, Clive Sherling, chairman of the Football Licensing Authority, and Profesor Devid Wallace and Professor David Wallace. Vice-Chancellor of Loughborough University.



Tony Banks, who is expected to head the task force on sports sponsors

Branson joins task force on replacing tobacco sponsors

By Andrew Pierce, political correspondent

RICHARD BRANSON will join a ministerial task force to try to find alternatives to tobacco sponsorship for sports, the Prime Minister told representatives of snooker, golf, ice hockey, darts and angling yesterday.

عركذا من زلاعل

Despite Tony Blair's commitment to take a "hands-on approach" to raising other sources of money, some of the delegates could not conceal their anger when they left the 45-minute meeting. "We were only allowed across the threshold because of the revelations over Bernie Ecclestone's donation:" said Robert Holmes, a spokesman for the Britsh

Darts Organisation, in a reference to the Formula One chief's £1,000,000 donation to the Labour Party. While Mr Ecclestone was granted a meeting with Mr Blair in October,

the other sports were given access only to civil servants. Mr Blair, who was a guest of Mr Ecclestone's at the British Grand Prix in July 1996, is being sent an invitation to the Embassy World Smooker Championships in January. The organisers believe that if Mr Blair could experience the drama of the finals he could become a convert and reconsider the tobacco policy.

described by both sides as "friendly and constructive", the Prime Minister was told that, despite the Government's task force, there was already a "crowded marketplace" for sponsorship money.

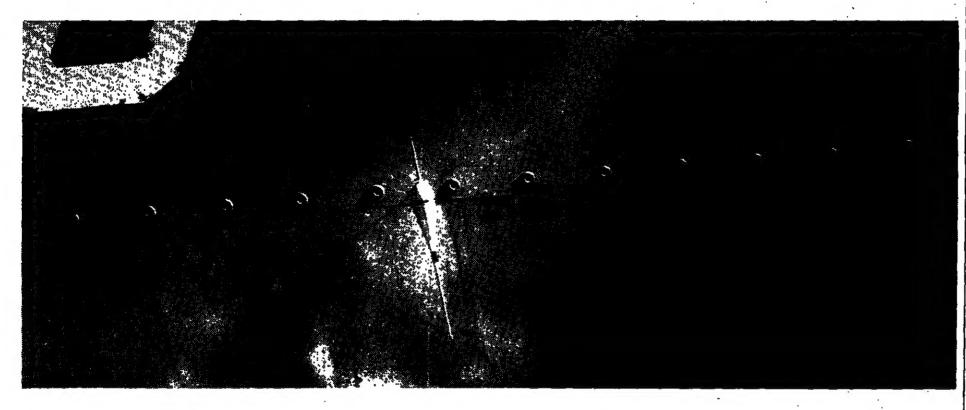
Mr Branson, who is away on business in Japan, will be a key !figure on the group which is expected to be headed by Tony Banks, the Sports Minister.

Mr Banks said: "The thing that the Government does not want to do is damage sport, and that is why we want to make sure that sports find a

sorship."
Within minutes of the sports delegation leaving. Mr Blair met represenances of a coalition of 83 health and welfare organistions who demanded that the Government stand firm on its initial policy of a comprehensive ban on health

Sandy Macara, chairman of the British Medical Association, said: "I cannot believe that people who really care about sport and want to encourage young people to engage in blood money from the merchants of

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Labour backs Church and State link

By RUTH GLEDHILL RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

A SENIOR MP yesterday signalled that the Government would not attempt to disestablish the Church of England, ending months of speculation. Stuart Bell, who as Second Church Estates Commissioner represents the Church in Parliament, backed the Church's plans to modernise itself and "connect with the people". But he also defended the monarch's position as Supreme Governor of the Church and said that the divorced status of the Prince of Wales represented no bar to

his succeeding the Queen.

After addressing the Gener-Synod to hold unity talks with Methodists

THE General Synod agreed last night to set up talks with Methodist leaders aimed at healing the historic rift between the two denominations (Ruth Gledhill writes).

Although a full merger is unlikely for decades, if ever, the talks could lead to the churches fully recognising the validity of the other's rites and sacraments. In practice, this from the grass roots upwards. Proposing that talks begin, the Bishop of Grimsby, the

Right Rev David Tustin, said Methodists had felt let down when the synod rejected a unity scheme in 1972. John Wesley (1703-91), the co-founder of Methodism, was a priest in the Church of England and had hoped to the day he died main part of it. "An immediate scheme of union would be unwise," said Bishop Tustin. "This is not a merger scheme. It is the next

step on the way to visible uni-

dressed regarding the office of

bishop, the Methodist Church

Questions had to be ad-

does not have bishops in this country, although it does abroad. There were other. questions concerning church government and authority. The Archbishop of Canter bury. Dr George Carey, said: not least that we are Churches with a Reformation inheritance, steeped in the Holy Scriptures." He added: "It is a tragedy that our forebears were not able to keep the Methodists within the Church

of England." Before the talks can begin, the move must be debated by the Methodist Conference.

al Synod meeting at Church House, Westminster, Mr Bell, the Labour MP for Middlesbrough, said: "One thing is clear: the Prime Minister has given every indication that there will not be disestablishment of the Church.

"We believe that what we

must do with the Church of date. If the Church, royalty and State modernise themselves, we are able to look towards the next millennium. The Prince's failed marriage, and the Prime Minister's recent intervention in the appointment of the new Bishop of Liverpool, had fuelled speculation within the Church that disestablishment might

reforms as disestablishme through the back door. . But Mr Bell made it dear at the synod that the Government would not countenance moves towards disestablishment. He said: "What the Church has to do is to connect with the people. The last Government had not connected with the people, the monarcity were clearly not con-

We are now seeing a Gov ernment connecting with the people, a monarchy connecting with the people and, through the new modernising process, a Church that will connect with the people," he

synod during a debate on proposals to modernise church structures, replacing layers of bureaucracy and committees with a central policy-making Archbishops

The Church has alway known that to endure it rous modernise," he said yesterda adding that the co-operation between Church and Parliament over the modernisation process "shows that the link between Church and State is not, as some might thinks obsolete or stagnant, but an evolving and dynamic part



Bell: said that Church needed to modernise

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'Holiday alone for lawyer who fled bride and gloom

By Adrian Lee and Tunku Varadarajan

A LONDON lawyer who jilted his bride just before a New York society wedding was vesterday settling into the Tahitian resort where they should have been spending

their honeymoon.
"While Nicole Contos and her family were counting the cost of his change of heart, Tasos Michael said he would pass the time alone the fourstar Beachcomber Parkroyal, described in one brochure as a Polynesian paradise". He has a double room for nine days, which he originally

booked as a surprise gift for his bride before they started married life in Wentworth, Surrey. A furious Miss Contos 27, was left sitting in a Rolls-Royce outside a

Manhattan church on Saturday. She later insisted on going ahead with a reception for 250 guests, where she danced to the song I Will Survive and won admiration in America for her bravery. Yesterday she told her story on

television with her mother. Mr Michael, 35, a shipping lawyer whose family live in Bounds Green, North London, said he was amazed by the fuss: "I suppose it is because the Americans don't have a princess to write about. "I can't believe there is so

he was alone: "I have not got any super-models beating down my door, if that's what you mean. I just wanted to get

He declined to apologise to Miss Contos and said he had no message for her. "At the moment, I am happy for her to have her day."

Miss Contos, a kindergarten teacher whose father runs the American Banana Company, hinted that, despite her humiliation, she was prepared

6 I have not got any models beating down my door. I just wanted to get

away. I can't believe there is such interest 🤊

to take him back: "I really believe it was a last-minute

panic type of thing." The couple met on a Greek beach last year. Miss Contos said that Mr Michael was "charming and debonair", and she felt their marriage was destined. He proposed in March and presented her with a four-carat diamond engage

Shortly before the ceremony, he told Miss Contos that he loved her, but was suffering

last-minute nerves. It was left to her brother, George, to stand in the pulpit of the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox church and explain that she had been jilted. Mr Michael fled to Los Angeles, where he caught a flight to Tahiti. A tropical storm marked his arrival, and the jetlagged traveller was fleding calls from the waste for market of the the press for much of the night.
The Beachcomber Parkroyal was built to resemble a Tahitian village, and of-

fers guests private beach-30 acres of lush gardens, spectacular ocean views, swimming pools with grottoes and waterfalls. Rooms cost about £150 a night. Rather than sit and cry

in New York, Miss Contos said she decided not to disappoint guests from all over the world: This was dding. Well, it did have a

supposed to be a fairytale happy ending. There just wasn't a groom. It was not the happiest occasion, but I held my head high and I am glad I went through with it. He should be very embarrassed

danced in her Victorian silk dress, from Saks, at the Essex House Hotel. Her elderly father. Demetrios, paid



Left waiting at the church: the bride Nicole Contos, who described the jilting as "a last-minute panic thing"

£40,000 for the reception. To add to her embarrassment, society pages of The New York Times on Sunday. It ran a retraction vesterday

deserved an explanation, but Sarah Merians, who was sup-Mr Michael said he had no posed to photograph the mediate plans to call her. "What happened was hor-rendous," said Judy Rosen-thal, a fellow kindergarten There was widespread sympathy for the bride among New York's Greek community.

"He's totally inhuman." said

helluva lot better." In London, Mr Michael's mother, Kay, said: "I just hope he is all right and I pray that he calls me. I am an old-fashioned mother and I forgive him. What do

62-year-old woman is jailed for smuggling

A PENSIONER was jailed yesterday for smuggling after claiming that she had bought 55,000 cigarettes to smoke. Phyllis Payne, 62, was under customs surveillance as she made 36 triangle 10 Power from made 36 trips to Dover from her home in South Wales.

In June 1996 she had been sentenced to four months in jail for smuggling. That sentence was suspended for 18 months because she had not been in trouble before.

Payne, a widow on invalid-ity benefit, subsequently went into partnership with an unidentified "source" in Dover and bought duty-free goods heading to the Continent. David Harris, for the prosecution, told Swansea Crown Court that in June customs men raided her room in a Dover hotel and found 55,000 cigarettes, 21 kilos of hand-rolling tobacco and 22 litres of spirits.

Duty evaded over the 36 trips amounted to ES8,195. "She was selling the goods on. using her house as a base," he said. Payne had used her daughter's house in Neath for storage and 17.000 cigarettes were recovered from it.

Payne admitted evading excise duty. Wayne Beard, representing her, said she was a scatterbrained woman who had persisted in the crime to clear debts incurred during a

Judge Hugh Williams jailed Payne for two years and orfour months. She was banned from driving for two years.

Inspector | Scientists grabs man put a face on Beachy to mystery Head

By JOANNA BALE

A POLICE officer risked his fife by rugby-tackling a suicid-al man at the edge of Beachy Head yesterday. Inspector Brian Stockham intervened at 4.50am after police had spent nearly 12 hours trying to persuade a psychiatric patient give up his suicide attempt Police had been alerted to

look out for the 47-year-old Surrey man's car and found it warked at the 500ft cliff in East Sussex. He was standing at the edge, on the far side of a ditch. After officers had talked to him until the early hours, a hot drink was left on the ground. As he returned from picking it up, he stumbled into

Inspector Stockham said: "He was getting out of the crevice when I jumped across it and grabbed his shins. He struggled and almost reached the edge but I managed to get a good hold of him while colleagues in harness secured

"I looked at how near I had been to the edge and said to myself, "You silly person." I thought of my children and how close I had come." The man was taken to a

psychiatric hospital.



Stockham: cliff-edge rugby tackle at night

man skull

BY PAUL WILKINSON

imaging to give a face to a body which has defied

60s lay undiscovered on a Yorkshire moor for up to 25 years before it was found by a gamekeeper last May. after all other methods failed, North Yorkshire Police turned to the Department of Forensic Medicine and Science at Glasgow University.

what they had named Colsterdale Man, after the location near Masham where the body was discovered. Mr Ed Ross-Sercombe, of North Yorkshire Police, said the skull was rotated and, using a laser-beam video capture technique, 20,000 "snapshots" were taken and compiled by a

would have looked like. This is the first time such a image has been produced."

Ankers, head of Richmond

build a human likeness from the skull of a woman whose Bank, near Thirsk. They constructed a clay model of her face but, despite international publicity, her identity was

POLICE have used computer

indentification for six months. The body of the man in his

Police sent them the skull of

computer.
"Effectively it put a layer of skin on the bone to provide a 3D image of what the face

The cause of death is un-known, although police are not treating it as suspicious. The man was about 5ft 8in with a size 32 waist and was wearing one size-eight shoe. The other was never found. Detective Inspector Alan

CID, said: "The clothing may auggest he is a man of the road and there is a drovers' path nearby which he may have wandered off." Ten years ago North York-shire Police asked scientists to

body was found at Sutton

Sober lessons for merry England BY IAN MURRAY, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

Andrew Fr

NE million men and nearly 90,000 women get drunk at east once a week, and about

three quarters of young people between 16 and 24 idmit they go on drink inges, according to a survey ablished yesterday by the lealth Education Authority. Almost a third of those estioned said they thought tting drunk was part of the inglish way of life. The poll among 1,600 people also found that London was the most absternious area, with 19 per cent claiming to be teeto-tallers. In the Midlands and East Anglia, 90 per cent said they were drinkers, but only 2 per cent confessed to having had a hangover, the lowest level in the country.

The survey was issued at the start of a campaign to warn people that alcohol is increasingly associated with violence.

Half of adults admitted to hospital with head injuries are drunk, and half of pedestrians killed in road accidents are over the legal drink-drive limit. A third of assaults on strangers take place in or around a pub and alcohol is involved in a third of inci-

dents of domestic violence. Nearly a third of younger people questioned said drinking made them feel aggressive and four out of ten said they argued after drinking. Seven out of ten said they had seen a

When you try small and the great to know the Things you now take for granted. So you probably never thought you'd have to go through the peducation process again. Then you were young, you had to learn even the Learning to see At a centain age, say around 407-50, from exergint begins to change. Switching focus between distant and close-up objects becomes more difficult. It's at this point that many people have to that the bid of the same bid. that tell-tale dividing line on their lenses Well, there is an alternative—the Specsavers varifocal lens 424 Varifocals have revolutionised dual-prescription spectacles But they can sometimes take a bit of getting used to. A little practice. So, at Specsavers Opticians, because were so confident that you'll take to them, we've developed a varifocal lens trial. lenses' if you buy a pair from us and you find you can get on with them, we'll reptace the lenses will a pan of standard Our varifocal spectacles start from just \$84.95 including the bifocals, or ensure you have two pairs of spectacles to your different prescriptions, and refund you any price difference." No quibble, no fuss, no risk. So, at Specsavers, trying the benefits of varifocals is as easy as riding a bike - with stabilisers, of course. Call FREE now to speak to your nearest Specsavers Opticians FREEPHONE 0800 0680 241 Specsavers

British TV takes the lion's share of Emmy awards

BRITISH television is on top of the world after Channel 4 and the BBC shared four of the six International Emmy awards in New York.

British programmes, which made up nine of the 18 nominations, won the top prize for drama, arts docu-mentary, children and young people, and performing arts. The awards, for which only programmes made outside America are eligible, were presented on Monday night at the Hilton hotel by Sir Peter Ustinov, the actor Armand Assante and the American actresses Marilu Henner and

Fran Drescher. The Emmy for best drama went to Crossing the Floor, BBC2's political spoof about a Tory Home Secretary, played by Tom Wilkinson, defecting to the Labour Party. "Politicians are more predictable than we realise," said Guy Jenkin, the programme's director and writer, after he received the award. The Hat Trick production also starred Pearson and Helen

Crossing the Floor, aired last October, had a certain portentous pungency: real life dramas not unlike the fictional one rocked the Tory party before the General Election earlier this year. The success of Crossing the Floor, howChannel 4 and BBC win two each at New

York ceremony, reports Tunku

Varadaraian

documentary by Jimmy Mc-Govern about the Sheffield football stadium disaster. The film had earlier won a Bafta award and was widely favoured to secure an Emmy.

Channel 4's Dancing for Dollars romped home an easy winner in the arts documentary section. The two-part film traced the decline and degradation of the once-great Bolshoi Ballet as it travelled to Las Vegas, where nobody wanted to see it. The gam-bling capital of the world had little time for tutus, and the visit was a flop.

The tragicomic documentary showed how a million dollars were lost by the pro-moters, one of whom suggested in despair to the dancers that they might sell more tickets if they performed Swan Lake naked. In one bitter scene, Raisa Struchkova, a ballerina with the Bolshoi on

years earlier, recalled how audiences in New York threw so many bouquets that she "walked on flowers all the way

The Emmy for performing arts went to Enter Achilles, a play about eight men exploring their masculinity in a pub and on the dance floor. The production was by DV8 films, adapted for the BBC. adapted for the BBC.

The film company's director, Lloyd Newson, is an Australian who read psychology at university, an experience that has left him with a lasting obsession with the fundamental questions of "humanness". An earlier filming of the stage play won the prestigious Prix

The final British Emmy winner was Wise Up, a chil dren's programme produced which has been a nominee for three years running. The programme is an attempt to counter "dumbing down" and claims to tackle "the issues that really matter to young people". Programme ideas are thought up by children, who are also part of the filming process, both in front of and behind the camera. Child presenters deal with issues such as divorce, Northern Ireland and, somewhat improbably. House of Lords reform.

Speaking after Monday's Mick Robertson.



the programme's producer, said: "I'm thrilled to pieces. Children should have a voice

The two remaining Emmys,

documentary, went to Dutch and Canadian programmes respectively. The first, Libert Zappt, is a film about a travelling comedian-cumpianist. The second, more sombre in tone, is Gerrie and

Louise, a documentary tracing the relationship between a South African colonel who ran "hit squads" under the old regime and a journalist inves-

Peer dismisses Spice Girls as bad company

By David Charter, Education correspondent.

NICOLA HORLICK and the Spice Girls were condemned last night as unsuitable role models by Baroness Brigstocke, a lifelong champion of women's

Lady Brigstocke, former High Mistress of St Paul's Girls' School in London. said she wanted to see young girls reminded of all their options, including the traditional family role. In the third annual Fawcett Library Lecture, she describ-ed as 'tyrannical' the super-successful City image and the all-girl band that popularised the notion of

girl power". They did little to encour-age more women into areas where they were still under-represented, such as medi-cine and politics, she said. "I think they are both tyramui-cal role models because they are putting out to young girls that the only way of succeeding in life is to be doing something amazing, like Nicola Horlick, who is clearly a one off, or to be like the Spice Girls, who are emphasising the rather friv-olous and physical side of

Lady Brigstocke said girls should be reminded that the traditional role as mother was highly valued by society. Girls had two other ety. Girls had two "lifestyle" routes they could flying career, or raise a family while working parttime. She followed the MEP Glenys Kinnock and Dame Barbara Mills, the Director of Public Prosecutions, as the third annual speaker in the series for the Fawcett Library, a national centre for women's history and the oldest of its kind in the

She hoped that the attention given to female educa-tion in the last 20 years would help stave off an apparent crisis in male eduapparent crists in male edu-cation, as boys could not expect a pattern of consis-tent full-time employment like their fathers. They looys also need to be pre-pared for a much fuller role as a parent and encouraged to realise how this can



Lady Brigstocke: said band was tyrannical

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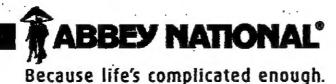
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ITV puts focus on drama and documentaries

BY CAROL MIDGLEY, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT Bushy Babes: and John

ITV is highlighting classic drama and documentaries this Christmas, with an adap-Wuthering Heights and a look at the legacy of apartheid. David Liddiment, ITV's new director of programmes, said the shift of emphasis reflected his wish to respond to changing needs and tastes.

dy's Tess of the D'Urbervilles form the centrepiece of the schedule, alongside Under The Sun, a drama about pre-Eve. and a dramatisation of ITV with old-fashioned, glitzy Oscar Wilde's The Canterville Ghost as a Christmas Day

Factual programmes which will be given new prominence include Builders From Hell, about untrustworthy tradesmen; a documentary marking

Pilger's look at South Africa. Mr Liddiment, who has been influenced by many BBC ber of BBC staff for ITV. including its admired sports chief, Ian Barwick, said: "One of my first initiatives has been to put factual programmes back at the heart of the ITV

ma events and extended network programming after draw in more younger viewprogrammes such as game ITV audiences have fallen in

recent years, with the introduction of dozens of cable and satellite channels. Mr Liddiment believes that narrative . documentaries, focusing on ; people, attract viewers.

another BBC staff executive. Grant Mansfield, the BBC's managing editor for network features and the man behind

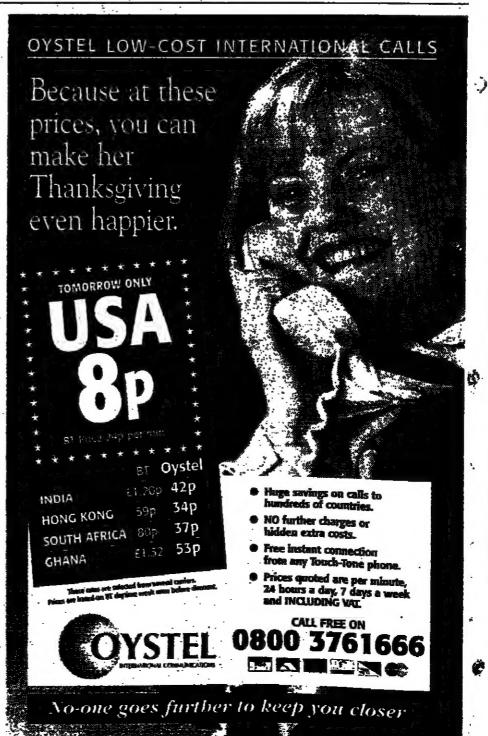
George States and the

de lata . . .

the popular BBC series Driv-ing School, will join next year. ITV will keep much its traditional "blockbuster" entertainment for Christmas Day when it will screen Home Alone 2 as its main film. Christmas Day special this year, alongside Coronation For the first time ITV will

take responsibility for the Queen's Christmas Day broadcast. It will be followed by the Spice Girls in concert. A Christmas Eve concert will come from St Paul's Cathedral, celebrating its 300th anniversary, with Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, Sir Harry Secombe and Patricia Routledge.

Television listings, page 51



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MY NOWHABER 26 19





The two faces of Seiton council: Southport, left, wants to dissociate itself from Bootle, right, which campaigners regard as a grey suburb of Liverpool with high levels of unemployment and crime

Southport fails to escape Scousers' grip

Mark Henderson reports on the genteel resort that thinks it is too good for Liverpool

THE middle classes of the genteel seaside resort of Southport, long embarrassed to be part of the same local authority as the Scousers of the Liverpool suburbs, have lost their attempt to escape the clutches of Setton council and

set up their own unitary town

Residents fear the town has lost its last chance to preserve its character after yeşterday's announcement that the Local Government Commission had recommended that it should remain part of Sefton, which also includes the northernsuburbs of Liverpool

Campaigners say the Victorian resort, historically an independent Lancashire borough, will soon become indistinguishable from the suburbs of Bootle, Crosby and Maghull, where residents speak with Liverpool accepts and unemployment and crime levels are high. This is the end of the line

for Southport, which will sink to become another grey sub-urb of Liverpool," said Tony Quirke, of Southport 2000, a group campaigning to keep Southport separate. We are all ashamed of Seiton and Merseyside where all we see is trouble. Dock strikes, unemployment, drugs — we don't want to be tarnished by that."

He said the suburbs had an entirely different character to Southport. They speak with Scouse accents, which we don't, and they have this reputation for shoplifting and stealing. Sefton doesn't take Bootle up to our level, it drags us down to theirs."

Southport, a Lancashire borough since 1867, was transferred to the new authority of Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council and county of Merseyside by the 1974 local government reforms, which swept away many traditional coun-ties such as Rutland and the Yorkshire Ridings. The resort is still surround-

ed by Lancashire to the north. east and south, and it has a Preston postcode rather than the Liverpool code used for the rest of Merseyside. The commission's review found that Southport had more elderly since joining Sefton. residents than the rest of the borough, while Bootle and Crosby supported more hous-

By contrast, Bootle is one of the safest Labour strongholds in the country. Higher avering benefit claimants and unage incomes in Southport employed. Property values are 20 per cent higher in Southmean residents pay more in council tax than they receive in

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF SEFTON SOUTHPORT

Southport fears its refined character is in danger

Winners of Britain in Bloom

"Without Southport's income, Bootle and Crosby would be in trouble. We are a milch cow for the north end of Liverpool."

Local government reforms allowing for unitary authorities introduced in 1992, which gave Rutland its independence rom Leicestershire, raised hopes that Southport might also be allowed to strike out on its own. John Gummer, then Envronment Secretary, order-ed a review of Setton last December, but its findings, released yesterday, rejected Southport's calls for independence. A unitary Southport authority would be too small to function effectively and too Roger Wilkinson, of the Southport Borough Cam-

paign, said the commission had ignored ample evidence that residents wanted and needed independence. He plans to ask John Prescott, the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions, to order a new review. However, Mr Prescott is likely to accept the commis-

sion's recommendation. Bootle councillors said Southport was being snooty.
"It is a sad state when they start saying they don't want to be in with the Scousers," said Dave Martin, a Labour councillor from Bootle. "It is true that the two towns have little in common, but there is no need for stereotyping."

Stonehenge to get new dawn free of 'modern clutter'

By JOANNA BALE

IMPROVING the landscape and tourist facilities at Stonehenge will be brought forward by the Government in time for the Millennium, the Culture Secretary. Chris Smith, announced yesterday.
Mr Smith wants to resolve

the controversy over the locahas impeded efforts to upgrade the ancient site. "I hope we can see Stonehenge restored to a landscape without the 20th century clutter that surrounds it at the moment." he said at a presentation of the annual report of English Heritage, the Government-backed body responsible for ancient monuments and buildings.

Last Monday he and the chairman of English Heritage, Sir Jocelyn Stevens, took a new plan to local residents to canvass their views on a range of options for making the site more attractive to visitors. One idea is to build a visitors' centre in a slight hollow, where it would not obstruct the view of the stones or be

seen from them. Mr Smith has already re-solved with the Ministry of Defence security objections involving the nearby Larkhill military base. The public has been barred from touching the stones for more than 20 years. and there was a series of violent clashes in the late 1980s with travellers who wanted to celebrate the summer solstice

The growing volume of heavy lorries on the A303 is thought to be making the stones unstable. A spokesman for the Department of Culture. Media and Sport said: Things are looking more hopeful now, but nothing will be imposed on the local people. The Secretary of State wants to broker a solution to the Stonehenge problem."

Mr Smith hit back at news-

paper articles claiming that new Labour is a "government of Philistines" interested only in modern architecture and design. He said the writers were "under a delusion", adding: "The Government believes that heritage is a prime national asset. It is as much

Labour urged to rethink 'disastrous' rural housing plans

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY COUNTRYSIDE CORRESPONDENT

AN AREA of rural bind larger than Greater London will be devoured by urban sprawl early in the next century unless the Government revises its housing policy, Friends of the Earth said yesterday.

The conservation group, supported by the Council for the Protection of Rural England, said in a teport that plans to site half the proposed

tryside by 2016 were causing many county councils profound alarm. Its survey showed that 20 out of the 35 county councils in England were worried about the environmental impact of the housing targets they had been allocated.

Eighteen of the 20 councils in the South and East, where most of the new building would be concentrated, were deeply concerned, with some predicting unacceptable con-sequences". Some 807,000 of the South East, 545,000 to the South West and 582,000 to the East. Green pressure groups have been

dismayed by the Government's acceptance of the previous Conservative administration's projection of future housing needs, and even more by its refusal to site the majority of the new homes in urban areas. Last year John Gummer, the Tories' Environment Secretary, recommended that at least 60 per cent of new homes should be on these

than on farmland or in green belt areas. But earlier this month, Richard Caborn, the Planning Minister, told MPs he was not prepared to set a higher target than 50 per cent.

"County councils are rightly con-cerned about the impact of building millions of new homes, and losing vast swaths of countryside to urban sprawl," Simon Festing, housing campaigner for FoE, said, "Labour cannot ignore this looming enviview its housing polices now or face mounting public criticism."

The CPRE said the full impact of new housing on the countryside would not be limited to loss of land. Michelle Coombs, natural resources campaigner, said: "We need to acknowledge the wider costs to the countryside which could result from higher levels of quarrying, water abstraction, extra traffic and growing mountains of waste."

The Labour-controlled Local

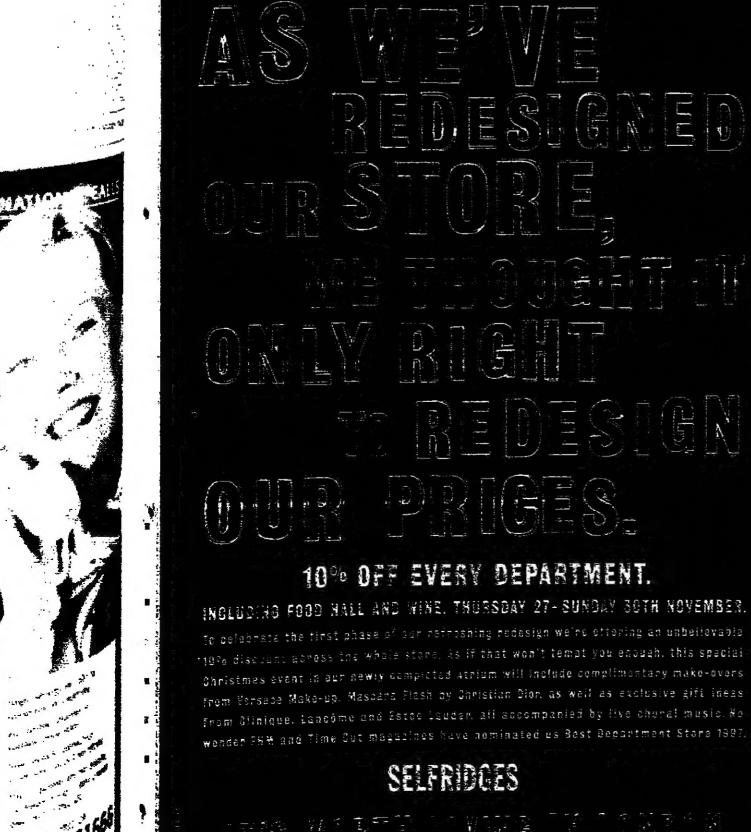
to attract middle-class families back to inner cities by improving security and providing better housing, leisure facilities and public transport.

while, has launched an action plan

Sir John Harman, chairman of the association's urban commission, said: "As we approach the millennium, we must find ways of exploiting the natural opportunities that cities offer. We must promote schemes which champion the idea. of urban living and reaffirm the

SIEMENS





THE TIMES WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 26 1997

Vicar gives up church for Internet romance

Russell Jenkins reports on a clergyman who found a new way of life

seaside after finding a bride on the Internet. The Rev Arthur Wilson, 54. vicar of Holy Trinity in Shaw, Old-ham, took to surfing the Internet after his first wife died and his vocation in the inner-city parish was severely shaken by the ordination of

Depressed and disheartened, he reached out for help through the Internet Relay swered by Jenny Rusdell, 48, a former girls' boarding school mistress suffering from multiple scierosis.

25 years, will leave the Church after conducting Christmas midnight Mass and move to West Sussex. plan to exploit their shared nterest in the Internet by

reforms in the Church of England, notably the ordina-tion of women, since the early 1990s. The death of his wife, Marilyn, a teacher and parish councillor, in April last year plunged him into depression.

cally, and with my theological doubts. I have a en quite hard. have always been interested

engineer before I was ordained. When I acquired an Internet

account. I had no thought of

Relay Chat channels and bepeople there. Jenny and I first

6 I felt that I could not Wilson decided take all the tensions into a new life 9

decided that the time had

Church because of their oppo-

"The parishioners are very leased for me," said Mr

sition to the ordination of

around. It opened up a new world, she said. "I don't think either of us set out to pursue met. Now, we are both together and we can both look after



The Rev Arthur Wilson and Jenny Rusdell, who met over the Internet, will marry and live on the South Coast

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Families object to appeal by jailed skipper

BEREAVED relatives and friends lobbied the High

sentenced to 18 months in prison after the Maria Assumpta, the world's oldest coast of Cornwall in May 1995.

He was found to be grossly Crown Court after the ship ran aground drowning the ships's cook, Anne Taylor, 51, assistant bosun, Emily Mac-Fariane, 19, and the second engineer, John Shannon, 30: At Litchfield's trial the court

profound disregard for the lives of his crew by sailing too close to shore, and when he realised he was heading on tothe rocks, started engines which he knew to be fuelled by contaminated diesel. As a result the engines failed and the ship ran aground.

Litchfield, a former Royal Navy officer of Boxley, Kent,

ing appeal and as he arrived at

square rigger Marques, which

At the appeal hearing yes-terday, Alun Jones, QC, for Litchfield, said none of the had seen anything dangerous in the skipper's course. He said the suggestion that the contaminated fuel was based on "probabilities and

Outside court Shirles Cooklin, the mother of Ben Bryant who died on the Marques, said: "I knew more lives would be lost if Lichfield was allowed to continue sailing. I am convinced this could happen again and again if his conviction is overturned."

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The appeal continues.

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Queen judges Denning worthy of Merit

The legal veteran has been chosen for a rare honour

in the Sovereign's own gift, writes Alan Hamilton

PERHAPS there was a slight spring in the step of Lord Denning as he took his customary morning walk in the grounds of his Hampshire home yesterday. Our longest-serving and best-known of judges has been appointed by the Queen to the Order of

GAT NORTHBURZER

tilies object

appeal by

ed skipper

Lord Denning, who will be 99 in January, joins Sir Nor-man Foster, the architect, and Sir Denis Rooke, the former British Gas chairman, as new members of the exclusive order, which is limited to 24 members. It is in the Sovereign's personal gift and re-quires no advice from quires no acr Downing Street

Born Alfred Thompson Denning in 1899, the son of a Hampshire draper, the for-mer Master of the Rolls declined to discuss his honour on the telephone yesterday, pleading advancing deafness. But his clerk, Peter Post, said that Lord Denning was proud to be joining such distin-guished ranks, whose mem-bers have included Florence Nightingale and Mother Teresa of Calcutta, not to mention such living luminaries as the Duke of Edinburgh, Baroness Thatcher and President

It is uncertain whether Lord Demning will be able to travel to Buckingham Palace for his investiture. "He is in fair form for his age, and still tries to take a short walk in the morning, but we have not yet decided whether he can manage the journey," Mr



Sir Norman: another of three royal appointees

tion for our best-known judge. He was absolutely delighted when the letter arrived from the Queen last week."

Lord Denning still lives in the Hampshire village where he was born, although in somewhat greater grandeur than his father did. The Lawn, Whitchurch, is a splen-did Regency house set in 35 acres, but is now largely empty. Lady Denning died five years ago, and her husband's only regular companions are two permanent

His son is an Oxford professor of chemistry at Magdalen, where Lord Denning himself achieved a triple first after an education at the village school and at Andover Grammar

While one of his brothers became a general and another an admiral, Tom Denning

was called to the Bar in 1923 to begin a distinguished, often controversial and usually outspoken legal career spanning nearly 60 years. He investi-gated the Profumo scandal of 1963, urged dockyard unions to take the Government to court over privatisation, at-tacked the Greenham Common peace women and the Animal Liberation Front, and claimed that jury-nobbling was a significant problem in the English courts.

Lord Denning had been appointed Master of the Rolls in 1962, before the introduction of compulsory retirement at 75, and remained on the bench until he was 83. "You can do good work after 75. I think I gave some of my judgments of greatest value after 75," he said at the

But Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, then the Lord Chancellor, took a different view. The trouble with Tom Denning is that he is always remaking the law, and we never know where we are." Since his retirement, Lord

Denning has shown little sign of lapsing into his dotage. In an interview in The Spectator in 1990, he caused much the Guildford Four were "probably guilty" and that, if the Birmingham Six had been hanged, "we shouldn't have all these campaigns to get them released". He said later that he had been quoted out of

He crossed swords with Lord Taylor of Gosforth, then



Lord Denning, who is 98, in the garden of his Regency home in the Hampshire village where he was born. He still takes a daily stroll

mandatory life sentences, and still refuses to lie down. At the gave free advice to Lord Justice Scott in the "arms for Iraq" inquiry, saying that, as he had found in the Profumo inquiry, it was difficult for one man to be detective, inquisi-

age of 95, he joined his local neighbourhood watch, and has campaigned enthusiastically to save his old village school and to preserve public rights of way around his

Of the other two appointees to the Order of Merit, Sir Norman is known for such major building projects as the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank in Hong Kong, and for backing a scheme to pedestrianise parts of Trafal-

gar Square and Parliament Square in London. Sir Denis, who led the gas industry through privatisation with the controversial "Sid" advertising campaign, is Chancellor of Loughborough University of Technology. The three

been created by the deaths of Sir Isaiah Berlin, Lord Todd and Dame Veronica Wedg-

Court and Social

Starlight rollerskater who fell over loses damages case

A ROLLERSKATING dancer whose for almost ten years and was hoping to career ended after she fell during a performance of the musical Starlight Express lost her High Court action for

Caron Davis cried when she described how the stage career she loved ended after the accident, more than three years ago. As one of four dancers in an opening number called Locomotion, Miss Davis, who used the stage name Caron Cordelle, was required to sing and skate to the edge of the stage to introduce herself to the

But during the performance, in March 1994, she said, the toe-stop on her skate failed to act as a brake because dust and fluff made the stage slippery. She said: "I fell on my backside, and was very embarrassed. but I kept on singing and got on with

London, who had been with the show

claim more than £50,000, alleged that the Really Useful Theatre Company was negligent in not doing more to stop the stage being slippery by keeping it

She said: "I was one of the strongest dancers in the show but I couldn't do anything to keep my balance." She added that the damage to her back meant she could no longer dance and it had affected her new job as a

The company, which manages the Andrew Lloyd Webber musical at the Apollo Victoria theatre in London, denied liability and said that the

accident was caused by of her lack of concentration. Judge Christopher Hordern, QC who admitted having skated in St James's Park "many years ago", found no breach of statutory duty or negligence had been established against the

company. He said that, although the

night she fell so that the stage could be cleaned, it was no more slippery than

The judge said Miss Davis's allega-tions, that fluff had been deposited on the stage and on to her toe-stop by the lem. or had com from a new front-of-house carpet, were no more than "red herrings"

There was, he said, a good system in place at the theatre, which involved treating the stage with a special cleaner twice a week and sweeping it before

each performance. He said: "No system can wholly guarantee that the surface of a stage upon which a number of performers continually rollerskate will be precisely the same on all occasions and in al parts. But this system did all that was reasonably practicable to keep the stage safe for the activity that was to

Miss Davis, whose case was funded



Davis: tried to claim £50,000 after career was ended by fall

by Equity, the actors' union, was ordered to pay the costs of the action. Afterwards, she said: "I feel gutted. I know the truth of what happened, but it seems it is difficult to prove."

MoD rejects engine fault in Chinook crash

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

mark over the system and

THE engines on the RAF Chinook belicopter that crashed into the Mull of Kintyre, killing 29 counter-terrorist and special forces personnel in 1994, were operating normally at the point of impact, the Attried Forces Miliister

Reconfirming the Ministry of Defence's judgment that the crash was due to pilot negligence, John Reid dismissed claims that an engine control system had been faulty. Peter Watson, a lawyer acting for one of the pilots killed in the crash, claimed that the RAF may have withheld vital technical information about the engine control system, called Fadec (full authority digital

engine control). He claimed the RAF had known there was a question

that, the day after the crash, a memo had been circulated pointing to problems with the equipment. "It suggested the software was unsuitable for its purpose and was unverifiable; in short, it was unreliable and didn't work," he said, adding that the memo had not been released to anyone inquiring into the crash.

After briefing the Commons Defence Committee vesterday, Dr Reid said concerns about the system had been known to the civilian and military investigators at the time of the accident and "were discounted from having any role in the cause of this accident.

The evidence demonstrated that both engines on the aircraft were operating normally at the time of impact."

The accident was the subject of an RAF board of inquiry and of a fatal accident inquiry in Scotland. Ministers have concluded, as had the previous administration, that the evidence fully substantiated the Lieutenant Richard Cook and Flight Lieutenant Jonathan Tapper, "in continuing to fly towards the high ground of the Mull below a safe altitude in unsuitable weather conditions, did not exercise the skill. care or judgment that they were known to possess".

Dr Reid said: "The board of inquiry and the Ministry of Defence take no pleasure in the finding of negligence and we understand and sympathise with the distress that this finding has caused the families of the two pilots."

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What can we do for you?

Why Brown can defer the tough decisions

doubtless be delighted with the quiet purrs with which the media are almost bound to greet his Pre-Budget Report. The Chancellor has done his utmost to present a bleak picture of the economy and the outlook for public finances, no doubt in the hope of pulling some goodies out of his hat when the time comes to present his full Budget next March. Mr Brown now says

that he will have to borrow

more next year than the

Treasury had expected. He

expects to miss his own infla-

tion target. He has also signif-

icantly downgraded earlier

forecasts of economic growth and therefore of jobs. But the headlines and television coverage inspired by yesterday's statement are sure to be full of good news. One million children romping in their newly created playgroups: three million cosy pensioners toasting muffins on their newly subsided gas fires; film producers, scientists and fashion designers



The Chancellor may earn plaudits today, but his job will be harder next year, writes Anatole Kaletsky

recognised as such).

may seem only a marginal

deterioration from the

£5.4 billion in the Treasury's

June forecast. But the short-

fall seems much more serious

once we recognise that the

CHOOSE A TV PREMIERE.

grants from the grandly named National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts. There may not have been much economic excitement in Mr Brown's pre-Budget statement, but could anyone have come up with more wholesome images to convey the spirit of new Labour's new Britain?

Mr Brown should enjoy the public adulation while he has it; from next year he will face a much harder task. If the Treasury's forecasts are correct and the economy slows to a sub-trend growth rate of between 1.5 and 2 per cent in start rising again from around the autumn of next year. Under these conditions of deficient demand, unemployment would rise even

CHOOSE LIFE.

#2 CHOOSE AN ARMCHAIR.

this year than expected, that rapid growth is expected to continue for the first part of next year and that the forecasts of inflation (which always flatters the public finances) have also edged up. Why then does the City more steeply if Mr Brown remain unworried? Because

were actually successful in his most economists believe that declared commitment to inthe Chancellor has cooked the crease the productivity of books to make economic prosaverage British worker (a pects look worse than they really are. This is a traditional challenge for businessmen practice of Chancellors trying to fend of demands for higher and workers which is beyond the capacity of any government and perhaps should be public spending from their ministerial colleagues. Exces-To make matters worse, the sive pessimism is also a natural temptation for politipublic finances will not be improving nearly as rapidly as the Treasury had expected parliament, when they are are trying to keep their powder dry for a pre-election binge of as recently as last June. According to Mr Brown's new public spending and good. forecasts, the public sector borrowing requirement in 1998-99 will be £6 billion. This

economic news. Usually Chancellors have simism in terms of personal popularity. But yesterday Mr Brown seemed immune. The reason lies in a series of political ruses whose implicaWELCOME TO HM TREASURY

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Internet browsers can check Treasury developments, including Mr Brown's Pre-Budget Report, on its Web site

tions are still not fully understood, especially among Lab-our backbenchers. Autumn is the time of year when Chancellors must normally take money from some government departments to give to others as they prepare the Government's spending plans for the following financial year. Past Autumn Statements have invariably been preceded by stories of ministerial "blood on the carpet" in the Cabinet room and fol-

lowed by headlines about

"Chancellor Scrooge" and squeals of anguish from vot-ers and spending lobbies. This year all of the difficult decisions have been lifted from the Chancellor's shoulders. Some have been deferred, awaiting reports from a plethora of special commis-

sions and reviews: on welfare reform, on minimum wages, on pensions and on capital gains tax to name but a few. The equally contentious task of rebalancing the core priorities of public spending

away from Tory values and in fence to health or from educafavour of the values supposedly espoused by new Labour

has been postponed even longer. By promising to stick to Tory spending plans for the first two years of the new Parliament, Mr Brown and Tony Blair have so far managed to sidestep the questions of priorities which have dominated all previous governments. Since the election there has been none of the traditional ministerial warfare over transferring money from de-

But this unaccustomed eace can only be maintained for as long as the new Labour Government sticks to the old Tory Government's policies. This is a state of grace which even Mr Blair and Mr Brown, with all their skills of political and media manipulation, will not be able to preserve next year. Next autumn Mr Brown will have a much harder task

Challenges over 'help' for low paid

THE Chancellor again alluded to Labour's plan to haive the lowest rate of income tax from the current 20p in the pound. Gordon Brown said: . A 10p starting rate of tax, and reform of benefit tapers, will be introduced when it is prudent to do so."

Cutting tax in this way would produce a maximum gain of around £410, assuming today's tax bands. However, accountants have criticised it because they believe it will bring the big-

INCOME TAX est benefit to the higher paid. Someone earning the national average wage of about £18,500 would save the full ing £7.000 would save £295.

John Whiting, tax partner at Price Waterhouse, said: "It is a good thing, but a 10p income tax rate does not do anything. The lowest paid are not interested in low rates of tax, they are interested in not losing their benefits as soon as they start work. The Government should attack the benefits trap. You will not tempt someone to take a low paid job."

John Battersby, tax partner at KPMG said: It would have

Investors may not feel much relief

THE long-awaited details of the Individual Savings Account, Gordon Brown's cure for the widespread aversion to thrift, will be unveiled next Tuesday. The Chancellor an-nounced that he would be issuing a consultation document on the new account which will supplant the Personal Equity Plan (Pep) and the Tax Exempt Special Savings Account (Tessa), the two

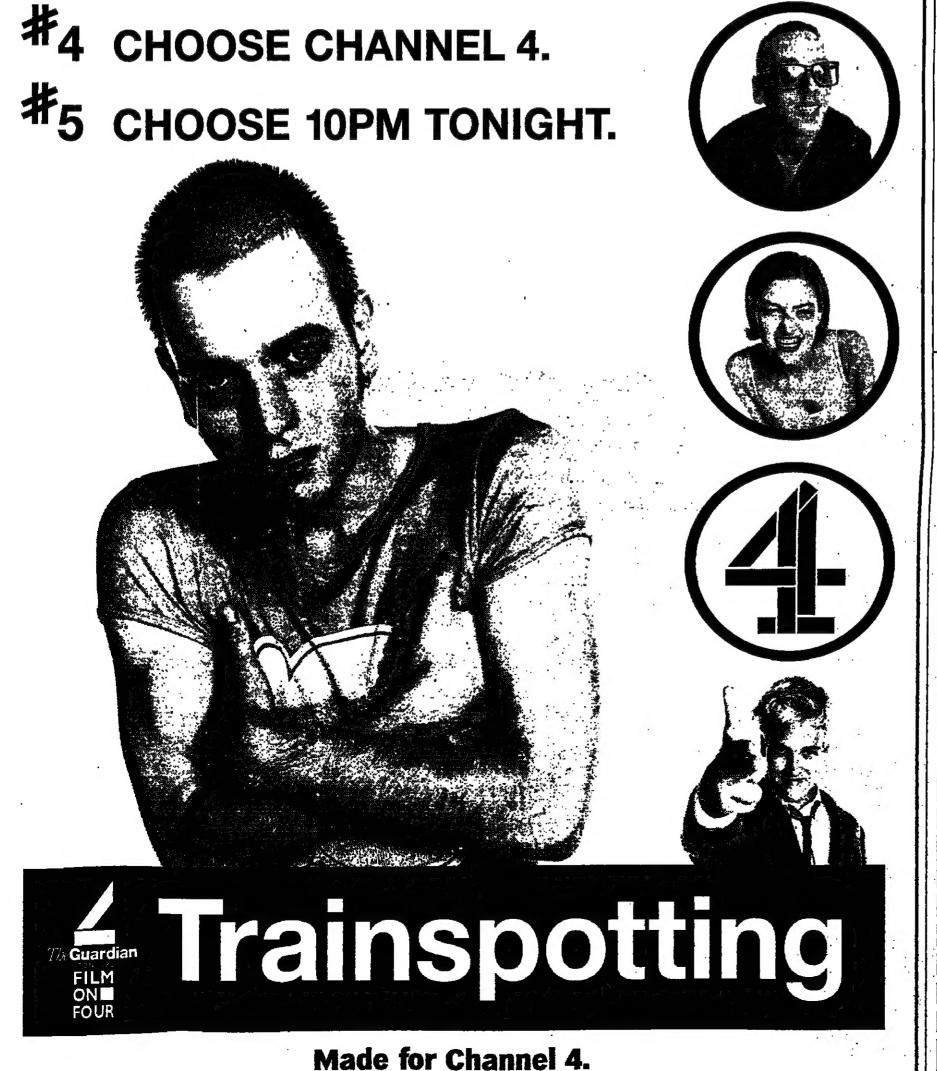
SAVINGS

ous tax break. Accountants believe that Mr Brown's wish to ensure that the account the population, presumably without extra cost to the Exchequer, means that tax reliefs could be restricted. John Battersby of KPMG, the accountancy firm, speculated that Isa tax relief could be limited to 10 per cent. By contrast, Peos and Tessas enjoy

higher rate (40 per cent) relief. The Chancellor again voiced his wish to increase the nation's level of savings. Although some £35 billion is . held in Peps and another £26 billion in Tessas, half the adult population still has no

- 1600

der offered



Bulgaria in Crisis LEFT TO FREEZE Yordan, I's, already from cold and hunger this winter unless aid No Money To Feed The Children

No Money To Heat The Orphanages Bulgaria is a country in the midst of a serious economic

crisis. Unless urgent help is sent, thousands of children will suffer terribly this winter. There is little money to hear the orphanages. nage Directors are having to beg for food from local villages and rarely know where the next meal is coming

from. In some areas children, like Yordan, are going hungry and the cold could prove fatal for many children this winter. Without aid this could be catastrophic for Bulgaria's orphanage children. The European Children's Trust, sister charity of The Romanian Orphanage Trust, is ready to distribute emergency food packs, clothes and fuel to the orphanages in most need.

Your gift today will save lives and bring hope. • £28 could buy enough emergency food packs to feed 20 orphanage children for a week or heat an orphanage for 3 days.

 Please send whatever survive the winter or 	you can to help children call 01273 299399 NOW
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Address	
1	Postcode
Telephone no.	- Jex
Return to: Tanya Ramon, (T6), Bulga	ria Emergency

Appeal, The European Children's Trust, PRESPOST RES359, 64 Queen Street, LONDON, EC4B 4AR or call



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vilies object appeal by ed skipper

120,000 const change our family's li

Postwar problem returns to haunt working mothers

GORDON BROWN'S pro-posal to set up a chain of 30,000 centres for latchkey kids" is the latest attempt to tackle a problem that has been with us off and on since Second World Waz. In wartime there was particularly good nursery provision for working mothers; today an estimated 350,000 children aged between four and 12 go

home to an empty house.
There used to be two kinds. of latchkey kid. - those who wore the front door key around their neck, and those who knew to find it on the end of a piece of string behind the letterbox. Either way, they went home to an empty house.

Working women were a common and accepted phenomenon during the war, but the notion went severely out of fashion around 1947, when psychiatrists concluded that the primary cause for juvenile delinquency was maternal de-privation. They did not seem to consider that paternal deAlan Hamilton

puts the increase in 'latchkey kids'

down to changes. in jobs market

that the wife of the family did not need to earn a supplemennorth, where female jobs in

ism of the 1960s. Not only did women develop a huge appe-tite for washing machines and

early eighties, the desire for vomen to work received fresh impetus from two directions. new work being created were entitled to their own lives and careers. Once again,

fessor of social policy at Middlesex University, said last night: "In the 1950s it was socially respectable for women not to work. Now the reverse is true; it is eminently

Professor MacGregor was herself a latchkey kid, but



£300m price of rebellion on cuts in childcare

By JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE surprise £300 million tended by Tony Blair that childcare package announced by the Chancellor yesterday followed frantic negotiations

David Blunkett last weekend. The two men met at the Treasury last Saturday to try to broker a deal on childcare which would quell a mounting rebellion among Labour backfit cutbacks. The Government was committed in its manifesto to a nationwide childcare prategy but had planned to

package in 1999 or later. The Chancelior has been forced to accelerate the scheme, however, because of the scale of the MPs' revolt. Backbench leaders had already warned that it was the single most contentious issue at Westminster since the General Election and there was little sign that it would fade away. Over 80 MPs had signed a Commons resolution,

of whom 55 were Labour MPs. Last week there was a bitter row over the single parent cutbacks at the weekly meeting of the Parliamentary Lab-

our Party.

MPs were mainly concerned that the cutbacks of £11 week, would be implemented in April, but there would be no help under Harriet Harman's New Deal to help single parents find jobs, until October. At a meeting of the parliamentary committee at-



Blunkett frantic

called on the Prime Minister to repeal the cutbacks or between Gordon Brown and, introduce alternative measures to compensate for the loss of cash. One of the measures was to bring for ward the New Deal for single parents to this April, and to give extra child care for those

> campaign climbdown continued throughout the weekend and Ministers only decided on Sunday to bring forward the childcare package. Mr Brown and Mr Blunkett decided that Ms Harman's programme would be brought forward for

> single mothers on benefit to next April. Every lone parent wanting to claim income support will be offered an interview and advice on job and training opportunities and

The main obstacle was how the plan was to be funded given that Gordon Brown had pledged to stick within Tory budgets for the next two years. The Government had always proposed that after-school kids chubs should be paid for by the Opportunities Fund. the new National Lottery fund which is being set up to supplement health and education resources.

However, legislation for the new fund is still going through be enacted before April 1998. The first tranche of money about £30 million - will therefore come directly from the Treasury, funded out of the

The pre-Budget report also discloses that the Government also plans to allocate a further £25 million to help lone par-ents with children under school age. Labour MPs had with Mr Blair that several single mothers wanted to work but were unable to do so because they had young children. The extra money is now expected to go towards child care places in the workplace or childminders to help the 12 per cent of lone parents with

Jobseekers offered half-price travel

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY RANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

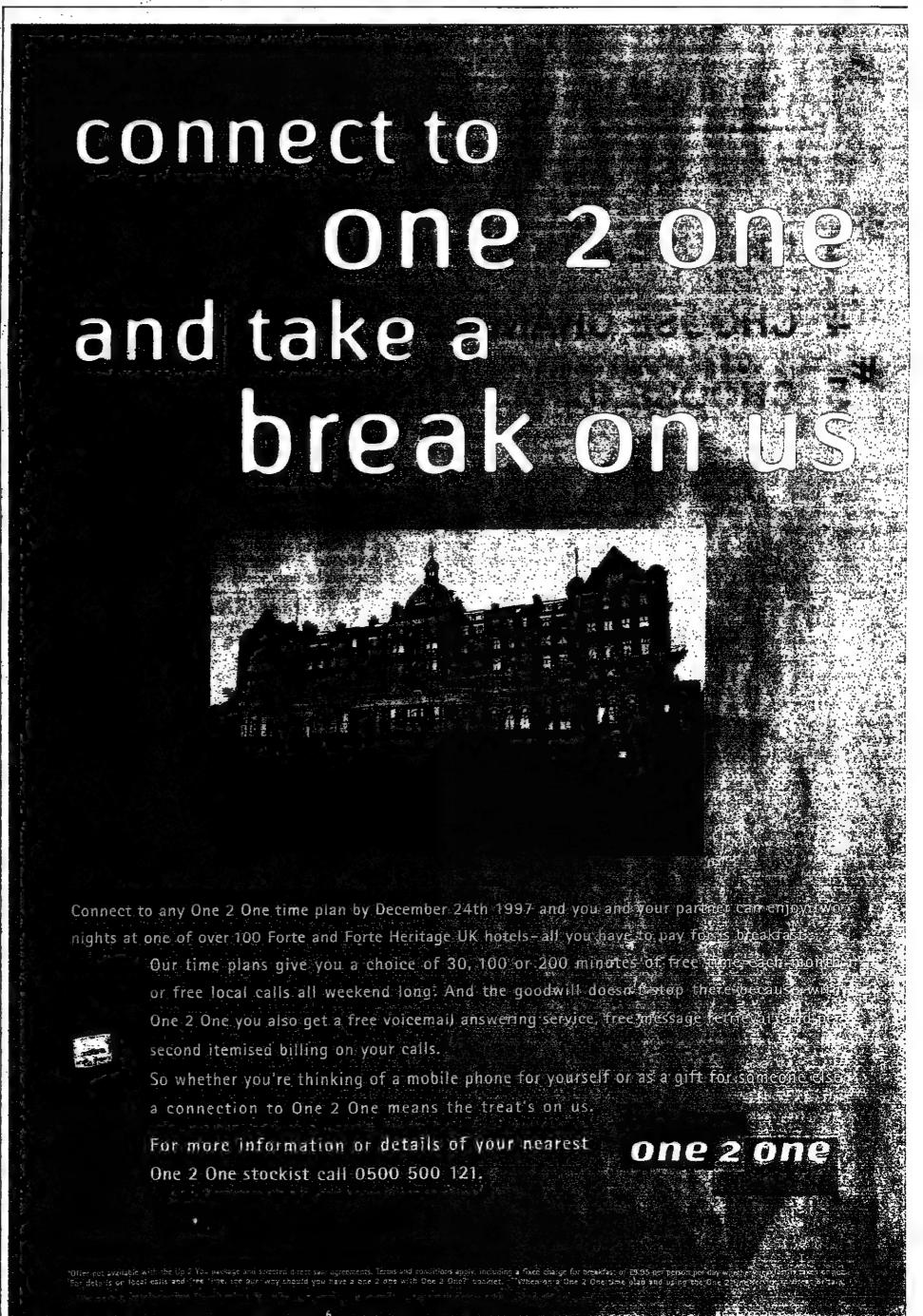
Chancellor yesterday praised bus and rail companies that have offered help to young people seeking work under the Government's training programme.

Thousands of young people seeking work will be given free or cheap travel on public transport under the scheme arranged by National Express and Stagecoach. They are offering half-price travel to those aged between 18 and 24 under the Government's

welfare to work initiative. The companies, which between them gwn seven of the

25 train operators and many bus firms throughout Britain. are offering the discounts on most of their franchises. Other. smaller firms are also involved in talks with government officials, aimed at increasing the amount of help given to those on the welfare to-work scheme. Mr Brown told the Com-

mons that the move would. help reduce travel-to-work costs that could be "a significant barrier for young people. moving from welfare to Treasury officials made clear that the Government would not offer any incentives to companies to offer discounts.



Brown sets out to make Britain work

More cash pledged to help the old, the unemployed and struggling families

The following are extracts from Gordon Brown's speech to the Commons yesterday.

THE purpose of this, the first annual pre-Budget statement, is to report the Government's assessment of the economy; to outline our Budget aims; and to encourage an informed debate on the detailed choices before us. To achieve our national economic objectives - high and stable levels of growth and employment the next Budget must address three challenges.

The first challenge is to increase our productivity. Britain today is some 20 per cent less productive than our main competitors and has been for years. Second, the challenge of employment -3.5 million working age households — almost 20 per cent — have no one

earning a wage. And third, the challenge of stability. For 40 years our economy has an unenviable history. under governments of both parties, of boom and bust. Stop-go has meant higher interest rates, less investment, fewer successful com-

panies and lost jobs. It has been the inevitable result of a failure to take the long-term

So the real choice lacing Britain in the coming Budget and beyond is between muddling through as we have done for decades from one stop-go cycle to another, or breaking with our past, burying shorttermism and securing long-term strength through stability, sustained increases in productivity and employment opportunity for all.

This is not a challenge for 'Government -alone.- It is "a" challenge that most also engage both the understanding and the commitment and investors and workforce. So at the heart of this pre-Budget report is the recognition that only by greater openness and

THE SPEECH

informed debate can this country achieve that shared understanding of the tasks ahead and that shared sense of national economy purpose that has eluded us for so long.

CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

The key to strong public services is long-term prosperi-ty through higher productivity. Government, industry and people together must now work to remove all barriers to productivity: in product mar-kets through encouraging competition and innovation; in capital markets through measures to enhance growth and investment, not least for innovative small businesses:

6 We are simply not prepared to allow another winter to go by when pensioners are fearful of turning up their heating 9

> and in the workplace through encouraging the creativity and flexibility of inventors, managers and workforces.
> After our successful Budget

initiative of July to encourage one of the most neglected of our creative industries - film - it is time to do more to dustries where from science, computer software and communications to design, fashion and music, our British genius for creativity has made Britain a world leader.

This year, entrepreneurs in small and medium sized companies can draw on our £200 million doubling of capital alast alocal to invest; in new testadology. From next year the new National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts will make grants to encourage creative talents. But I can also say today,

that in advance of the Budger, the President of the Board of Trade and I are examining how, to improve productivity. we can help leading edge businesses gain funds in develop new technologies; how we can improve Britain's poor record of investment in research and development; and how we can make it easier for small businesses to draw on venture capital to create jobs and a

more entrepreneurial culture. Our poor record on investment in Britain also reflects our low level of national saving. Half the adult population have hardly any savings at all. To encourage more people to save we will introduce from April 1999 new individual savings accounts, the details of which will be put out to consultation next Tues-

day. But there is one decision on investment that should not be delayed. In July we implemented the first tage of corporate tax main rate of corporation tax by 2 per cent to 31 per cent, its lowest level ever, And, following the abolition of payable tax credits, we began to consult, as promised.

on the second stage. Advance corporation tax is now a hindrance to sensible business planning. Britain needs a reformed system that matches the needs of modern companies and favours the long term. So to allow companies to plan I can confirm today that in April 1999 advance corporation tax will be abolished. At that point we will begin the move to paying corporation tax by quarterly instalments. Small companies will be exempt from this and special arrangements will be

our pro-business and proinvestment agenda, I can announce that in the Budget, the main rate of corporation tax



Gordon Brown at the dispatch box yesterday, promising to end Britain's tradition of "muddling through from one stop-go cycle to another"

will be cut again by I per cent to 30 per cent from April 1999 the lowest tax rate of any major industrialised country.

In July we said that instead simply compensating people for unemployment, our priority is to tackle the root causes of unemployment and poverty by providing new opportunities for work. The Government has been addressing all the obstacles that prevent people taking up and benefiting from work: ☐ the absence of marketable

benefits system to make work worthwhile ☐ the poverty and unemploy-

I the failure of the tax and

childcare. We have concluded that to help people move from benefits to wages, nothing less

than a comprehensive tax and benefit reform and the modernisation of the welfare state is required. This strategy involves three basic elements providing skills for work, making work pay and creat-

ing new job opportunities.
First, to offer skills for work, the Secretary of State for Education and Employment will shortly publish proposals for Individual Learning Accounts and for the University for Industry, Secondly, I want everyone who can work to be better off in work than on benefit. So the Government now proposes an integrated tax and benefit plan involving action at every level.

To maximise the rewards

from work, a 10p starting rate of tax and a reform of benefit tapers will be introduced when it is prudent to do so.

for families with children, w propose a working families tax credit, backed up by affordable child care. And to ensure the rewards of these reforms flow directly to the employee we are committed to a statutory minimum wage.

We will now consider in detail the working families tax credit; cash paid through the wage packet directly to families on low incomes, side by side with the minimum wage. The proposal would build on the successful elements of family credit, and involve better help through the tax system for childcare costs.

We will now also consider the future structure of national insurance for the low paid. Some low-paid employees face marginal tax rates of over 100 per cent. To improve rewards from work, to simplify administrative hurdens on employers and to encourage them to take on more people, it is now right to consider the scope for bringing the national insurance structure for the low paid more closely into line with

And finally, there are men and women who have been excluded for too long and who need extra help to get back into work. In the Budget we made a start by announcing a new deal worth £4 billion that provides jobs for young unemployed, the long-term unemployed, ione parents and the

The new deal for the young unemployed will start in pilor form in January and extend nationwide for the young un-employed in April, with the support of some of our best known companies. I can also announce today that some of Britain's leading bus and rail companies have agreed to play their part by introducing a new travel pass for young people on our new deal, cutting by at least 50 per cent their travel fares."

Helping lone parents into work is the most effective longterm way to tackle their family poverty. The new deal for lone parents began in eight areas in July. Already it is yielding results where it counts - in higher living standards for lone-parent families. So from next year our Welfare to Work programme will be extended to help every lone parent who wants advice and help. And from April every single parent coming on to benefit will be offered help to find work if that is what she or he wants.

AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS

Lone parents need and have right to expect affordable child care indeed, since May

Homeowners and savers left to suffer, says Lilley

AND POLLY NEWTON

PETER LILLEY told MPs that homeowners, savers and taxpayers would be disappointed by a pre-Bud-get statement that did noth-ing to undo the damage caused by recent rises in tax and interest rates.
The Shadow Chancellor said that nothing Gordon

Brown had proposed would help the typical home own-ing family, which faced £650 a year higher costs because of interest rate rises, a cut in mortgage tax relief and extra burdens on pension funds. "On this side of the House we would welcome any reduction in tax from a Chancellor who has broken his promise not to raise taxes

and increased 17 taxes." He told Mr Brown: "Most outside observers will find your statement disappointing because there is so little detail on future tax reforms despite what we were promised, so little to reassure savers who have been disturbed by your proposals and so little to clarify the confusion surrounding all

your welfare reforms . . . "Above all, homeowners, savers and taxpayers will be disappointed that there is nothing in the statement to undo the cost to them that this Government has already inflicted through five interest rate increases, 17 tax rises and a cruel tax on their pension funds."

Malcolm Bruce, the Liberal Democrat Treasury spokesman, welcomed the concept of a pre-Budget

and Employment have been working with the Treasury on

plans to make a reality of a

national childcare strategy.

And, paramount in our family

policy, are the interests of the



Lilley: condemned

statement and said his party would submit its own pro-posals to the Treasury. But he asked why the Chancellor had not given details about the Government's expenditure plans. This is a polo mint of a statement with a hole in the middle where the spending plans should be."

He asked why Mr Brown was able to find cash for these tax cuts but could not give any more to the health service and education. "Although the Tories are out of office, in his department they are still in power".
The former Chancellor

Kenneth Clarke (C, Rushcliffe) told Mr Brown that public sector borrowing was reducing "at a very rapid rate and likely to hit a period of debt repayment which you never intended. This underlines that your July Budget was quite unnecessary." Mr Brown should stop

reviving the myth that the

takes on and trains a young or

long-term unemployed person

and keeps them on, can now

receive up front three quarters

of their new deal allocation

thus giving immediate help

'broken promises"

Audrey Wise (Lab. Preston) told the Chancellor that his own figures showed that was not necessary to abolish benefits for lone parents. She said: "In view of the fact that abolishing this benefit would impoverish the poorest children, deepen the poverty trap and is a discouragement to work, can I ask him to look again at this matter."

profligate big spender and justifying his plans by refer-

ring to the economic signa-tion of the late 1980s, "where

circumstances bore no rela-

tion to where they are now"

cept you inherited sustain-able growth with low

inflation failing unemploy-incite, and public finances which have surprised you by

how rapidly they are

Mr Brown told Mr

Clarke: "We are not going to

Chancellor who should have

raised interest rates before

the election but did not do so

for political reasons."

He asked: "Don't you ac-

. Mr Brown replied that child benefit was rising and that the Government's priority was to get lone parents

Ken Livingstone (Lab. Brent East) claimed Britain's economy was in danger of slowing down to the point of recession over the next few years. "Aren't we facing a major balance of payments crisis unless the Chancellor can do something to bring down the value of the pound and that means tackling interest rates?"

At the moment, although

They are of no help at all to most pensioners, including the million not getting their income support entitlements. no help to those on the margins of poverty and of doubtful help even to those who do qualify who often don't know whether they can afford to spend extra money on fuel when it is cold.

The Secretary of State for Social Security and I are simply not prepared to allow another winter to go by when pensioners are fearful of turning up their heating even in the coldest winter days because they do not know whether they will have the help they need for their fuel

For this winter and next every pensioner household will receive £20 extra to help European budget and the money will be naid in time to

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of at source from the interest poid (which may be reclaimed by resident non-torpoyers). Otherwise, (for exception, subject to

with training costs — in the Tomorrow they will announce a five-year plan to

extend out-of-school childcare clubs to every community in Britain. Funds will be available to set up as many as 30,000 new out-of-school clubs, which will provide places for nearly one million children. The total cost, £300 million over five years, will be shared between the Exchequer and the new opportunities fund. To staff the new clubs 50,000 young people across Britain will be offered training as childcarers through our

welfare to work programme. Under our plan, every lone parent who needs it will be able to find an out-of-school dub in their community. A national childcare strategy is no longer the ambition of workless parents. It is now the policy of this country's

Today while nearly one in five working age households have no one working, we also have extensive skill shortages throughout our economy. The proportion of manufacturing firms reporting skill shortages is up 70 per cent on a year ago. We will now introduce pilot

case of young people about £1.700 and for the long-term unemployed, £1.500. HELP FOR THE OLD There is one announcement

that I promised to make today. Following a review by Customs and Excise which will be published tomorrow 1 have decided that VAT on the installation of energy saving material under existing grant schemes, such as the home energy efficiency scheme will be cut from 17.5 per cent to 5 per cent in the spring Budget. This will mean that the funds

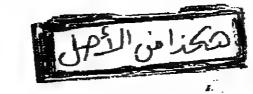
under these schemes will go

further, helping to insulate 40,000 more homes per year. We must help the thousands who do not claim benefits and who need them; most. The Secretary of State for Social Security is announcing today that she will finance a number of pilot projects so that we can find the best ways of encouraging improved benefits take-

up by the poorest pensioners. We have already cut VAT on fuel and power to 5 per cent, as we promised. But it would be wrong to wait until we have the results of our pensions the elderly with winter fuel

the poorest do get some help through cold weather payments, these payments only go to those on income support and they generally have to wait until after the cold weather until help is available.

with their bills. And every pensioner household on income support - nearly two million - will receive £50 extra. The cost will be met from reallocating the savings on our contributions to the





vners and ; left to

Work 'Luvvies' add their creative effort to the accounting

LABOUR "luvvies" have al-ready tasted the fruits of at Number 10 parties with Tony Blair and Gordon Brown. Now the Prime Minister is now treating the best of Britain's artists — musicians, broadcasters, designers, film directors, as well as inventors and scientists — to a banquet of influence inside his Government as the creative arts become a mainstream force in

Mr Blair showed his commitment to the rebranding of Britain when he invited Sir Terence Conran to transform a floor of Canary Wharf tower in London's Docklands to host the Anglo-French summit two

weeks ago.
Yesterday it was the turn of the Chancellor, Gordon Brown, to spell out his vision for British creative talents to become world market leaders in their fields. Mr Brown also suggested that the Government might take a share in the success by forming parinerships with creative companies.

He has already taken action to help the film industry, but yesterday told MPs: "It is time to do more to encourage other creative industries where from science, computer software and communications to design, fashion and music, our British genius for creativity

Valerie Elliott reports on the

hopes that a new force can

give drive to economic policy

leader." He promised to help artists young and old to foster their creative talents by allowing them to apply for grants under the new National En-dowment for Science, Technolpev and the Arts.

The awards will be made from the £1 billion raised from the National Lottery proceeds to invest in new opportunities. Chris Smith, Culture Secretary, is to reveal the precise amount of cash and the legal framework in which Nesta will operate when he publishes the Lottery Reform Bill next month. But he said last night that he hoped the first grants would be on offer by the end of

next year.

The aim of the grant is also to help budding entrepreneurs market and produce their

Ministers are already working on plans to help the



Richard Branson, left, and Lord Puttnam: among the big names on Creative Industries Taskforce

markets and in particular to stamp out piracy of British copyright. Chris Smith said last night

they were particularly con-cerned at the piracy of CDs in the Far East and Eastern Europe, and that the Government was determined to establish international protection for intellectual property and copyright. He has already announced

new Creative Industries Taskforce which includes Richard Branson, the filmmaker Lord Puttnam, and Alan McGee of Creation Records, Oasis's record label, and this issue dominated their first meeting last month.

Just as the British music industry has enjoyed huge commercial success worldwide, ministers hope to achieve the same for other industries, particularly com-puter graphics, and the designers of sophisticated

Mr Smith also said the group were concerned that the various media courses on offer in further and higher educa-tion colleges could be better designed to meet the needs of the industry.

But he was clearly delighted that the Chancellor had flagged up the creative arts in his pre-Budget speech: "This shows just how serious we are on the importance of creative industries and proves it is very much in the higher reaches of the Chancellor's mind as well

Mr Smith hopes the British residency of the EC will also allow the Government to have a vital role in shaping the future of television and film in

He is to host an EC audiovisual conference in Birmingham in April, that will provide a showcase for British media and design



Green campaigners criticise VAT move

BY NICK NUTTALL. ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

A CUT in the VAT on insulation materials used in home energy efficiency schemes was announced by the Chan-

Claiming it to be part of the dentials, he said the rate of tax was being cut to 5 per cent to bring the rate in line with the VAT charged on energy use through electricity and gas

Gordon Brown said that the move, which will cost the Exchequer £2.5 million emphasised the Government's commitment to reduc-

ing carbon dioxide emissions It will increase by 48,000 the number of low income homes that get insulated under government-backed prog-

The Chancellor said that the Government would, in the light of decisions to be taken at next week's Kyoto summit on dimate change, look at "how the tax system can reflect our environmental

He added: "In this pre-Budget statement we are consulting in all areas where it is right and appropriate to consult. We are taking action in all those areas where action is needed immediately and we

are putting to the country the

choices that can only be made by all of us," he said.

"Following a review by Customs and Excise I have decided that VAT on the installation of energy-saving material, under existing grant schemes such as the Home Energy Efficiency Scheme, will be cut from 17 per cent to 5 per cent. This will mean the funds under this scheme will go further and will help to nsulate 48,000 more homes per year."

Environmental campaign ers claimed the move did not go far enough.

In 1996, the Shadow Cabinet had said it wanted to cut VAT on all energy-saving

Charities for the elderly welcome extra fuel payments

BY JOANNA BALE

CHARITIES and organisations that support the elderly welcomed the Chancellor's plans to give extra money to pensioners for their winter fuel bills yesterday.

All pensioner households will receive an extra £20 and nearly 1.7 million pensioner households on income support will receive £50. This will be a single pay-out, regardless of

Mervyn Kohler, Help the Aged's head of public affairs, said it was "delighted that the Chancellor has found extra money for the problems that older people face each winter and is starting to address the issue seriously. The extra cash is going to be very helpful and will ease the minds of many older people this winter." Mr Kohler said the main

issue for pensioners was making their homes warmer and more efficient to heat. He added: "The VAT announcement on energy-saving materials is a useful step forward." Jack Jones, of the National Pensioners' Convention, said: This is very welcome indeed at the outset of the cold weather. Twenty pounds extra for a pensioner household is going to be very helpful for the two million pensioners who live on their own over the age

mean £50." The former Transport Union leader added:"It will mean they will be assured the money before suffering the severe weather."

of 75 and, of course, for those

on Income Support it will

Sally Greengross, director general of Age Concern Eng-land, said: "We are delighted that the Government has responded to pressure from Age Concern to recognise pensioners' need for extra financial help with heating bills throughout the winter months. The planned payments will help the poorest pensioners through the coldest darkest months of the year. It lessens the stark choice between food and fuel."

She said that last year 46,208 more people over the age of 60 died during the vinter months than during the summer. "We hope that the Government will continue to act to reduce this death toll." The charity also welcomed

the reduction of VAT on energy-saving materials and the Government's recognition of the need to tackle the problem of pensioners not claiming benefit to which they

There are an estimated II million pensioners receiving state retirement pension and an estimated seven million pensioner households, all of which will be entitled to the extra help with fuel bills.

It was not immediately clear how the new winter payments would be handed out. Making the £20 payment to all pen-sioner households, not just people on income support, is going to present special problems. About a million pensioners are not claiming income support to which they are

A spokeswoman for Age Concern England said: They will have to reach people they don't normally reach. It could be done in a variety of ways. for instance through pension books. We are trying to find out what is planned at the moment. It's going to be an interesting task having to reach all those people."

Pensioners on income support are already eligible for cold weather payments of £8.50 when the average temperature at a specified weather station has been recorded at. or is forecast to be, zero degrees centigrade or below over seven consecutive days.

Benefits may be replaced by income tax credits

BY JULI SHERMAN CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

GORDON BROWN announced yesterday that he intended to go shead with integrating the tax and benefit systems as part of a comprehensive reform of the welfare state.

While giving few details about how this would work, the Chancelfor said that the aim was to ensure that families would be better off in work than they would be on

The plans, which are being worked out by Martin Taylor, chief executive of Barclays Bank, as part of an internal Treasury review, are expected to include a tax credit for working families. This could involve transforming the present Family Credit benefit payment into a tax credit. The payment would be made to families on low incomes,

directly through the pay packet.

Mr Brown argued that a tax credit would have higher take-up than a welfare benefit and would give an additional incentive to take

a job. "I want everyone who can work to be better off in work than on benefit. So the Government now proposes an intergrated tax and benefit plan involving action at

Any programme for welfare reform drawn up by Mr Taylor will, however, have to fit with ideas now being worked up by Frank Field, the Welfare Minister. Both Mr Field and Gordon Brown are determined to end the poverty traps which can mean that people lose so much of their benefit when they

off on the dole. Mr Brown made clear in his Commons statement that he will announce further changes to the benefit tapers — the scale at which money is taken away, once the claimant finds work. The Chancellor repeated his intention to introduce a 10p starting tax rate, which he said would also benefit poorer groups but he re-fused to say when this would be introduced. The poor would benefit

more from the lower starting rate if

take on work, that they are better

from work, a 10p starting rate of tax and a reform of benefit tapers will be introduced when it is prudent to The Chancellor also intend to make changes to the structure of national insurance contributions

gradual."To maximise the rewards

which now places a heavier burden on the lowe paid. The pre-Budget report says there is scope for bringing ithe national insurance structure more into line with income tax to ease adminstrative

Under his plans the poorest people could be £5 a week better off. Under present rules, each person

has an income tax allowance for this financial year of £4,045 and a National Insurance allowance of £3,224. Anyone who earns below £77 a week pays no income tax, and when they begin to earn more than £77 a week they pay income tax only on the difference. However, they have to pay national insurance contributions on all earnings once they are being paid more than £62



Taylor: working on Treasury review

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Populist goes for the eye-catching in event of little substance

regarded as an Iron Chancellor, he should not at the same time be trying to win easy newspaper headlines as a populist Santa Claus. The two main announcements that won the cheers of Labour MPs, on childcare and providing help for pensioness' heating bills, are, however merited, being financed in gimmicky ways that should have horrified the Treasury. The first will be funded by another raid on the National Lottery (again abusing its role of not financing core pro-grammes), and the second by an unexpected shortfall in payments to the European Union (a traditionally erratic

IF Gordon Brown wants to be

His statement yesterday was a characteristic Brown mixture of campaigning rhetoric (the "people's priorities" and similar drivel), sensible analysis of the fiscal outlook in the Treasury's Pre-Budget Report, another round of halfhidden tax rises (by abolishing Advance Corporation Tax), further outlines of his welfare reform strategy, and

rague aspirations elsewhere. But yesterday was not a genuine consultative exercise. Mr Brown either did not set out real options or he already has a firm view where he intends to go — as in his Welfare to Work plans. The most interesting part of his statement was the discussion of employment. Mr Brown believes that the way to relieve

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

peated his determination to press ahead with a 10p starting rate of tax, reform of benefit tapers, a working fam-ilies tax credit and affordable child care. This could in time lead to a fundamental reshaping of the welfare system.

But Mr Brown had little to say on tax reform apart from corporation tax. There was no discussion of the balance between different types of tax, for instance the role of expen-

6 Yesterday's event was typical of the Government's style ?

diture taxes and personal tax allowances, though we will have details on the individual savings account in a week. But the main disappoint-

ment is the absence of any discussion of what the Goveminent does, or what size the state should be. That was perhaps inherent since the comprehensive spending re-view will not be completed until next summer. So Mr Brown does not yet know what scope there is for overall

in the share of public spend-ing in national income over the course of this parliament. However, the tax burden is projected to continue to rise from 36.7 per cent this year to 38.2 per cent by the likely election year.

Lest anyone thinks that the

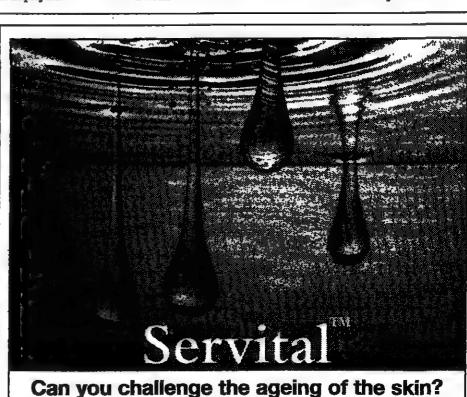
forecasts of a return to surplus

within three years are a cause for relaxation, Mr Brown rightly warned that the underlying structural deficit (adjusting for the strength of the economy) may be larger. He pointed to the lessons of 1988 when it was wrongly as-sumed that the structural deficit had disappeared and the penalty was the return of boom and bust". The Government's proposed Code for Fiscal Stability will not ensure fiscal virtue, such codes never can. But by providing more information and discussion of a wider range of possibilities, it may broaden the public debate and will serve a purpose if it helps deter the type of damaging tax cuty seen in 1988 and 1999.

Yesterday's event was typi cal of the Government's style eye-catching, but essentially minor announcements intended to please Labour MPs and the press, but a reluctance to discuss longer-term strategy in any but vague terms.

Decisions and presentation
are still determined by the
habits of Opposition. The Government behaves as if the election was in six months rather than four years. Mr Brown can do better than yesterday's slogans.

PETER RIDDELL



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I saw Winnie stab youth, says witness

the life of teenage township activist Stompie Moeketsi Seipei emerged yesterday as a Mandela United Football Club came out of hiding in Britain and said he saw Winnie Madikizela-Mandela inge a "sharp object" twice into his tortured body.

Kanza Cebekhulu, 27, said he had seen Stompie, 14. carried from a back room of Mrs Mandela's Soweto mansion, and laid out by a jacuzzi where she stabbed him twice with a "sharp object".

I saw her killing Stompie,

he said, pointing at Mrs Mandela, who looked on

After witnessing the stabbing, which came after three days of torture by Mrs Mandela, Mr Cebekhulu was smuggled out of the country to prevent him testifying against Nelson Mandela's former wile in her 1991 trial over the Stompie case.

Baroness Nicholson of Winterbourne, the former Liberal



had been told by Kenneth

Kaunda, Zambia's former

President, that he had been

asked by the African National

Congress to "absorb" Mr

Cebekhulu, to prevent him

testifying against Mrs Man-

is expected to send several

ministers to explain the par-

still President in 1991 he

received a call from Oliver

The ANC-led Government

When [Dr Kaunda] was

dela at her trial in 1991.

ty's role in the cover-un.

A growing number of Mrs Mandela's former friends are lining up to accuse her of murder in the townships, Sam Kiley reports from Johannesburg

tering Mr Cebekhulu in Dev-Tambo [President of the Lusaon and appeared with him at ka-based ANCI and asked if the Truth and Reconciliation he could look after someone Commission yesterday.

Lady Nicholson said she who would lose his life if he stayed in South Africa," Lady

Nicholson said. Mr Cebekhulu, was smug gled out via Mozambique and Angola before he was taken to Lusaka by ANC agents and imprisoned for 212 years. Mrs Mandela was fined after being convicted of kidnapping and

But yesterday the commission heard from several witnesses that she had been present when Stompie and three other young men were

beaten up so that they would "confess" to having been sexually assaulted by the Rev Paul Verryn, a Methodist minister in Soweto who was sheltering ANC activists.

The motive for Mrs Mandela's campaign against the minister, now Bishop of Johannesburg, remain ob-scure. But the commission was told that Stompie was killed because he had been accused of being an impimpi police informer.

Mr Cebekhulu pointed at Mrs Mandela and, striking the table in front of him with a pen, said: "she stabbed him with a sharp object ... which

Mr Cebekhulu also told how he saw Mrs Mandela using a whip to beat Lolo Sono, another activist accused of being an informer.

"I saw him in the garage lof Mrs Mandela's home. Win-nie was beating him with a sjambok. He was lying on the concrete floor trying to protect mouth," he told the commission, set up to investigate



هكذا من رلاميل

Katiza Cebekhulu, watched by Lady Nicholson, who sheltered him, taking the oath in Johannesburg yesterday

human rights abuses in South Africa between 1960 and 1994. Mr. Cebekhulu said that later Sono was taken away in a minibus by Mrs Mandela

bodyguards, and was never

Mrs Mandela, 63, had not applied to the commission for amnesty. If it gives credence to

"football club", her gang of the evidence of a growing bodyguards, and was never number of former friends and associates, she could face criminal prosecution for up to 13 murders and numerous

counts of torture. Xoliswa Falati, 45, who testified in the 1991 trial that Mrs Mandela had been in Brandfort, Orange Free State, at the time of Stompie's death. said yesterday she had lied in mander" from prosecution. Now that we have a democratic government, I am determined to tell the truth," Mrs Falati said.

A loud and passionate wit-ness, Mrs Falati was also convicted of kidnapping and assaulting Stompie.

Mrs Mandela gestured that Mrs Falati was insane and smiled through most of her



Xoliswa Falati gives testimony against Mrs Mandela

WORLD IN BRIEF

Nine die as boat drifts 1,800 miles

Auckland: A one-hour sailing trip turned into a nine-week fight for survival for a group of about 13 Indonesians when their sail was destroyed in a storm. A man and three women were recovering in a Micronesian hospital yesterday after drifting for 1,860 miles. The rest were swept overboard or starved to death. The US Coast Guard in Guam said the 35ft wooden boat left Manado in Sulawesi on September 13. It was found on Monday 320 miles southwest of Chunk in Micronesia with five survivors

on board, but a woman died soon afterwards. It was the second time in a month that an Indonesian boat has drifted to the Federated States of Micronesia. On October 23 six Indonesians were rescued having been carried on the area's unpredictable Equatorial Counter Current for three months after their boat's engine failed. One person died. (AFP)

Blair pledge to South Africa

London: Tony Blair promised Thabo Mbeki, South Africa's deputy President, that Britain would use its European Union presidency to sign a new EU-South Africa agreement (Michael Binyon writes). At the first meeting of the UK/SA Bilateral Forum he also signed an investment promotion and protection agreement. Britain is South Africa's largest trading partner.

Hillary's plea for Everest

Denver: Sir Edmund Hillary, the first man to conquer Mount Everest, right, says the Nepalese Government should restrict the number of climbers allowed on the peak. In Denver for a speech, Sir Edmund, who with Sherpa Tenzing Norgay became the first person to climb the 29,078ft peak in 1953, said: "Now people will pay \$65,000 [£38,000] to be inducted up to the top. The guides will sometimes take risks they shouldn't because of the financial motivation." (AP)



Villagers steal from the dying

Bangkok: Villagers near Pichit, northern Thailand, stole from victims of a bus crash in which 24 people died and 60 were injured, police said (Andrew Drummond writes). One victim was said to have begged: "I'm not dead yet. Please fielp me", while passengers' belongings were ransacked. A large amount of cash is believed to have been stolen from an injured monk.

Ban on Afghan women lifted

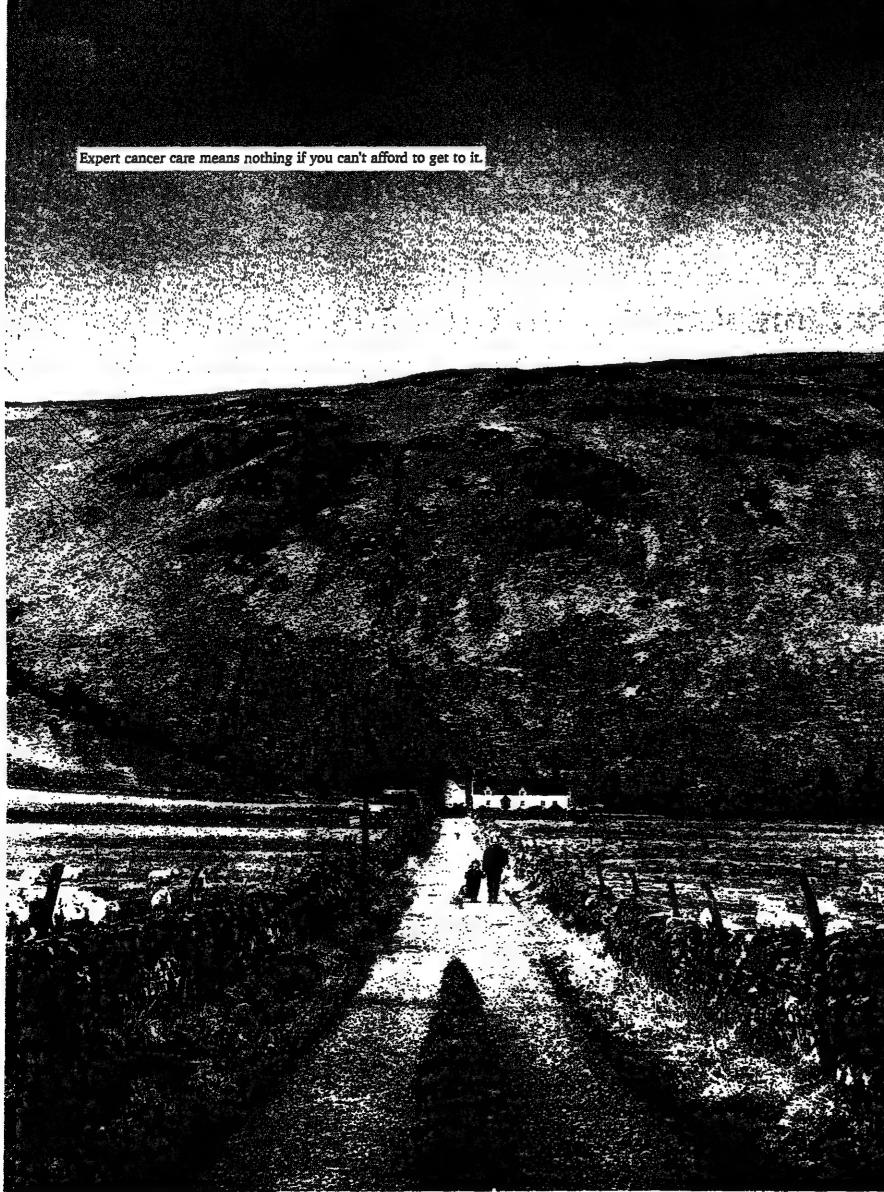
Geneva: The fundamentalist Muslim Taleban has reversed a policy of denying women access to most huspitals in Kabul, the capital of Afghanistan, the International Committee of the Red Cross said Bans imposed in September provoked protests from humanitarian organisations, and the Red Cross had threatened to stop supporting the two main hospitals in Kabul. (AFP)

16 inmates die in jail blaze

Maracarbo: Sixteen immales were killed and 32 injured by a fire in an overcrowded cell in a maximum security Venezuelan jail. authorities said. The blaze at La Sabaneta prison in the western Zulia state was caused by an electrical short circuit, and spread when immates' bedsheets caught fire. Only four of the 16 dead had been sentenced. (Reuters).

Witches curse the taxman

Budapest: The Alliance of Hungarian Witches, registered as a religious denomination since 1992, went on trial here accused of not paying taxes on proceeds from its services. The 8,300-member group claims the same stare budget subsidies and taxfree status as other denominations in Hungary. (AP)



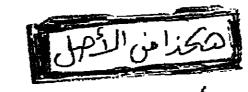
For some, the right cancer care is not always locally available. Every year, Macmillan Cancer Relief give emergency grants for travel related expenses to patients experiencing financial difficulties. We need your support. To make a donation please call free on 0500 800 111.



Corruption



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STATISTICAL NOVEMBERS

Eastwood: talent for terse philosophy

Outlaw actor takes aim at lawmen

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGREES

THE most famous mayor elected by the town of Carmel has returned fleetingly to politics, scolding the Clintons for meddling with films and castigating Congress as a self-interested group of lawyers.

Clint Eastwood, who has a new film to promote, prompted speculation as mayor of his California home town in the 1980s that he might follow Ronald Reagan in seeking higher office. So far he has not, but an interview in The Wall Street Journal yesterday showed that his screen talent for terse philosophy endures in real

Some burbs were aimed directly at the White House. "Cigarettes kill people." Mr Eastwood said. "But so does booze and fat food. The President, who likes his hamburgers, is sitting there with his cholesterol. Nofood. Why not?"

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The hero of Dirty Harry and The Outlaw Josey Wales left no doubt that his day had been spoilt by the Clintons' recent plea for Hollywood to stop depicting smoking as fashionable.

The tobacco industry had become "a whipping boy for politicians," he said. "The President and First Lady burn-rapping a movie — what the bell? It's just a flick."

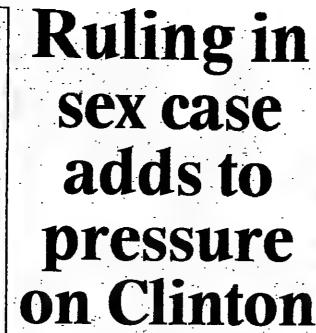
Mr Eastwood, 67, usually calls himself a political libertarian. Though a reg-istered Republican for 45 years, staunch views on abortion and politicians have prevented him from

taking on a more promi-nent political role. He told an interviewer earlier this year that abortion should be "an individual decision. I don't believe organisations should start taking over the decision-making pro-cess for the individual."

Asked about his political ideal, he said: "Everyone leaves everyone else alone. Neither party seems to have the ability to embrace that sort of

Mr Eastwood was especially critical of his own party for failing to enact reforms. "Congress is never going to do it because they're all lawyers themselves - both sides of the aisle," he said.

"I'm sure if somebody said to Humphrey Bogart to stop smoking in movies, he'd have told them to go screw themselves. We don't seem to have people taking that kind of a position today."



FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

her harassment action against President Clinton, effectively placing her own sexual history off limits to questioning by his

This development in the case, expected to go to trial in May, came amid reports that Mrs Jones's lawyers want to talk to another woman alleged to have had an affair with Mr Clinton as recently as the month of his first presidential inauguration.

At least three other women have been subpoensed to give evidence on behalf of Mrs Jones to prove what her lawyers describe as a pattern of

In a move which further helped her case yesterday, Judge Susan Webber Wright agreed that Mrs Jones may drop her defamation claim against Danny Ferguson, the Arkansas state trooper who claimed that she wanted to become Mr Clinton's mistress after an alleged sexual en-counter with him in a botel room in 199L

Mrs Jones, a former state employee, claims she was led to a room at the Excelsion Hotel in Little Rock where Mr Clinton, then the Governor, dropped his trousers and demanded that she perform oral sex. He has denied ever meet-

mation claim as justification for questioning potential wit-nesses about Mrs Jones's sexual and employment history, information that could have been used by Mr Clinton's

In making her decision, the judge further upset the Clinton camp by allowing Mrs Jones to include three further claims in her legal action. She is seeking to bring allegations that Mr Clinton granted employment and government benefits to other women who submitted to his demands for sexual favours.

Mrs Jones also claims that she felt she was in a hostile environment because other women who gave in to Mr Clinton were granted benefits that she was denied. A third claim alleges that Mrs Jones was denied her right to free speech by virtue of Mr Clin-"overt and covert warnings.
The New York Post reported

yesterday that Mrs Jones's lawyers in Dallas are seeking to interview an employee of the Entergy-Arkansas power company in Little Rock, but that the woman had refused to be questioned.

Judge Wright is expecte soon to rule on whether this woman, alleged to have had an affair with Mr Clinton as late as January 1993, will be compelled to give evidence.



Captain Winston Scott, left, and Takao Doi, a Japanese astronaut, prepare to retrieve an errant science satellite yesterday and place it in the payload bay of the space shuttle Columbia. Precision flying by the shuttle commander and the space walkers' skill prevented the satellite from becoming costly space junk (lan Brodie writes). Kevin Kregal, the

Shuttle crew retrieves satellite

commander, positioned Columbia in perfect alignment with the satellite while Captain Scott, and Mr Doi snared it with their gloved hands. The pair waited on opposite sides of the shuttle's open cargo hold, their

miles above Earth.

Nasa's concern had been the risk of collision. The satellite and shuttle flew in close formation for 90 minutes before they were correctly positioned.

hills. He then flicked through

pictures sent back by the

Viking orbiter, which had

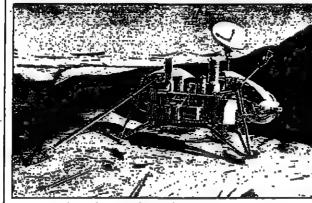
circled the planet while the

lander sat on the surface

recording the landscape. Dr

leant forward, using timing and skill satellite, a 5ft cube weighing one and a half tons with an 11ft solar telescope protruding through both sides. After running tests, Nasa will decide wheth-er to redeploy it towards the end of the shuttle's 16-day mission. Its purpose is to study the fiery outer layers of the Sun's atmosphere.

Mars detective work puts lost vehicle in the frame



IN A painstaking piece of detective work, a geographer in Canada has pinpointed the location on Mars of the Viking 2 lander "lost" by Nasa shortly after it touched down on the surface of the Red Planet in

The last pictures it beamed back to Earth showed a pancake-flat landscape for miles around and that lack of distinguishing features made it impossible for Mission Control to pinpoint Viking 2's final resting place. Nasa, which

identified a 100-square-kilo-Stooke found what looked like metre patch where it could be the same two hills in the resting, eventually gave up. Dr Phil Stooke, from the orbiter images. The Viking 2 lander was stranded near a University of Western Ontarcrater-topped mountain called io, used more advanced tech-Goldstone, in the southern niques to scan the last images. part of the planet. "It was a He took a strip of the horizon just a matter of matching patand stretched it upwards to terns." he said. When told of magnify any subtle bumps. the discovery. Dr Dave Pieri, a His ingenuity paid off when he found two distant small Nasa geologist who worked on the Viking mission, said it felt like finding a lost child.

There are two other landers on Mars - Viking I from July 1976 and this July's Sojourner rover. Each is near distinctive

IMF is asked for record £43bn to bail out Asia

FROM BRONWEN MADDOX IN VANCOUVER

LEADERS of the 18 Apec countries were yesterday set to back an ambitious regional stabilisation plan despite disagreement about each country's contribution and fears that belt-tightening will cause political unrest.

There is no doubt that the fundamentals for long-term growth and prospects for the are exceptionally strong," the draft communique for the Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation forum said. "We remain convinced that open markets bring sig-nificant benefits and we will continue to pursue trade and

fosters further growth." The plan to prevent the Asian financial crisis from spreading to the world's markets gives the central role to the International Monetary Fund. In the most expensive rescue package of its 53-year history, it is likely to be asked formally for at least \$70 billion (£43 billion) to bail out Indone-

sia, Thailand, the Philippines

Lau: Asia's 'dark side'

and South Korea. An IMF team arrived yesterday in South Korea, the largest of South-East Asia's "tiger" economies, to assess whether \$20 billion would be enough to bring about financial stability in the face of the country's short-term debts of \$60 billion.

The crisis, which began in Thailand in July, has led to plummeting currencies and stock markets, undermining the security for debt and making it harder for countries to meet their foreign debts. Under Apec's plan, known as the "Manila framework"

investment liberalisation that

after an emergency meeting last week, the IMF will have primary responsibility for the rescue, but there is the possibility of support from richer countries such as the US and

However, America and Japan appeared to differ on whether Tokyo should be expected to play a leading role in helping the region as well as itself. Yesterday President Clinton said Japan could help

Corruption warning for China

Sydney: A leading Hong Kong politician said yesterday that

the Southeast Asian financial

crisis revealed the "dark side"

of Asian values, such as

cronyism and political corrup-

tion. Emily Lau, leader of the

pro-democracy Frontier group, said the turmoil in

Asian markets and its world-

wide fall-out demonstrated the

need to ensure Hong Kong's

political and economic acc-

corruption in mainland China

could filter into the former

She said that widespread

ountability.

to lead Asia out of the crisis. But earlier, Koji Tsuruoka. director of one of Japan's North American policy divisions, said the best thing Janan could do to help Asia was "to address our own problems". He added that the US was "reasonably accurate" in fearing the drop in the yen against the dollar would lead to a worsening of the US trade deficit with Japan.

The US won small comfort from Japan's agreement to loosen the red tane which makes it hard for foreigners to do business. Japan said it expects to demonstrate progress by the Group of Seven meeting of the big industrial powers in Birmingham in

But US officials leave Vancouver today with their biggest fears unassuaged: whether the austerity measures imposed by the IMF as a condition for its loans will convert the economic crisis into political turmoil. Simon Jenkins, page 22

British territory after legisla-

to Sydney, said Beijing and

Tung Chee-hwa, Hong Kong's

new chief executive, had as-

pired to the "economic au-

thoritarianism" of Southeast

Asian nations. "One hopes

that the financial turmoil will

make the Chinese Govern-

ment realise that, in order to

sustain a strong and vibrant

economy, open and account-

able political and institutional

governance is essential," she

Ms Lau, on a four-day visit

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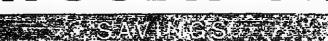
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Hothouse coral takes heat off reefs

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

AMERICAN scientists are rescuing the world's reefs from erosion - by growing coral under arc lights in Pittsburgh 200 greenhouses, thousands of miles from the beaches of California and the Caribbean.

The New Jersey zoo is at the cutting edge of a project to halt a decline in marine life caused by the plundering of coral reefs to satisfy pet shops, aquariums and medical research. Other institutions are just starting to

get into this. If we can do it here, we can be a good role model for everyone else," said Jim Prappas, curator of the Aqua-Zoo, which now houses America's largest coral collection. The Pittsburgh team

gramme in conjuction with organisers of the International Year of the Reef. It hopes it is weeks away from reducing by as much as 25 per cent the amount of coral taken from the wild.

Although coral mining is outlawed in-American waters, it is widely practised elsewhere. Fewer than a third of reels are in a stable condition, according to the American Zoo and Aquarium Association, and another 30 per cent are expected to decline in the next 20 years. Mr. Prappas said the 200 was supplying free coral to institutions for exhibits and should start selling to shops and research-

ers within months. Beijing: Chinese scientists plan to try to clone the Yunnan snub-nosed monkey.

launched its coral propagation pro- also known as the golden monkey, which is on the brink of extinction, according to a People's Daily article quoted yesterday by the official Xinhua news agency.

It said that scientists at Kunming Zoological Research Institute "are using advanced technology to research hereditary features of the primate in preparation for the cloning".

Thirteen of the monkeys have been bred in captivity since 1994, the report said. Special reserves have also been set up. 'However, we are still facing damage to the monkey's habitats caused by excessive lumbering and a shortage of research funds," said Ji Weizhi, institute director, explaining the need for cloning.

Leading article, page 23

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to pick with news reporters

FROM BEN MACINTYRE

FRENCH butchers, revealing an unexpectedly sensitive side, have demanded that journalists stop using the word "butchery" whenever they describe a massacre because it is giving their trade a bad name.

In a statement addressed to "Messieurs at Mesdames les journalistes" yesterday, the butchers' federation said that "an entire innocent profession is being injured" because of the media's tendency to describe every murderer as a "butcher" and every mass killing as an act of "butchery".

The recent massacre at Luxor, the continued killings in Algeria, the trial of Maurice Papon for crimes against humanity and the hunt for a serial killer in eastern Paris have kept the word "butcher" on the front page of French newspapers in recent weeks, and now the men and women who provide France with their steaks have had enough. The federation said it had

received many letters from its 22.000 members, complaining that they feel aggrieved by being constantly associated with the world's nastiest news events. "The butcher distributes the meat which is consumed along with bread and wine. His role evokes peace and fraternity. There is nothing of the executioner or torturer about him. The butcher is an artisan, proud of his fob," the federation said.

We agree that these horrors and the perpetrators of these odious crimes must be condemned." the butchers said, but urged journalists whose vocabulary has failed them" to use other terms to

denounce the criminals. The organisation listed a series of synonyms for "butcher" as a service for journalists too lazy to think up their own. "Rather than use the word butcher', would it not be fairer to use cruel, bloody. barbaric, ferocious, savage, etc?" the statement asked. In place of "butchery", the feder-

Butchers have bone Air attack on rabies brings hidden peril

RABIES is on the retreat in continental Europe, thanks to huge quantities of vaccine dropped on woodland by

But German animal biologists are warning that the decline may be matched by an even more insidious disease caused by a tapeworm, which flourishes in the rapidly increasing fox population and can be transmitted to humans.

World Health Organisation figures show how effective the campaign against rabies has been over the past decade. In 1983 there were more than 9,000 registered cases of rabies among animals in Germany. Last year the number had dropped to 153, and this year experts expect only around 70.

Statistics comparing the first quarter of 1983 flust before the aerial vaccination began) with the first quarter of this year are even more remarkable. Seriously affected areas like France, Belgium, Switzerland and northern Italy are now almost free of the disease. "In the whole of Europe rabies is now close to extinction," says Dr Winfried Müller, of the federal research agency into animal viral

The key to this has been the

Foxes are lapping up vaccine dropped by aircraft. But their rising numbers

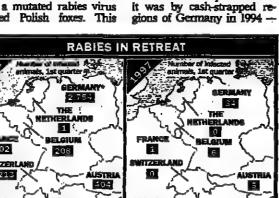
pose a new threat, says Roger Boyes

Around six million capsules a year are dropped in Germany alone. Coated with fish essence, they are attractive to foxes, which guzzle them happily and are now increasingly

immune to the disease. At the beginning of the century rabies was spread by wild dogs which had to be hunted down; this is still the case in many developing countries. After the Second World War, a mutated rabies virus infected Polish foxes. This

spread westwards at around 30 miles a year, and rabies became a feature of central Europe Traditional culling by farm-

ers, hunters or poison gas (pumped into foxes' dens) made little impact. Only the air-dropped vaccine has shown significant results. German scientists have noted, however, that once the vaccination is suspended — as



Worm is an ancient enemy that plagued the pharaohs

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

THE tapeworm Echinococcus granulosus is an ancient enemy of mankind; evidence of it has been found in Egyptian mummies more than 4,000 years old.

But British experts believe it should be possible to control the spread of the parasite, even if a growing fox popula-tion is infected by it.

Dr Mark Fox, of the

London Veterinary School, says dogs and foxes are hosts to the worm. Unlike other tapeworms, which can grow to several metres, it is a mere half-centimetre long.

Dogs, or foxes, usually be-

dead sheep. The worm then grows in the animal's intestine, shedding up to 800 eggs a formight, which are excreted. Dog owners can become infected from grooming or stroking their dogs and then falling to wash their hands before eating.

in the human body the worms lodge in the liver, lungs, brain or other organs, where they form hydatic cysts. These do not produce symptoms, but can grow to a great size — as large as a football. Infection of the liver is particeasy to treat. The disease is

nimble Diseases Surveillance Centre in Colindale show that the number of people treated for hydatic cysts remains low, but has risen quite sharply since 1990. Last year there were 43 cases, up from 27 the year before and only 14 in

The reason for the increase is not known, but control is relatively straightforward, Dr Fox says. Even if it is impossible to prevent foxes becoming infected by eating contami nated sheep carcasses, people do not come into close connic with them. The risk that dogs could pick up the parasite can be controlled by res

rabies rapidly returns. The fox population has increased beween three- and five-fold — as is immediately evident to anyone walking in the Black Forest. So many are now straying into urban areas that the anti-rables vaccine has had to be placed in some city

The foxes have brought with them a secondary problem: a disease caused by a tapeworm and carried by the fox that can lead to a death every bit as painful (albeit far slower) than

Dr Ferdinand Rübe, a leading animal biologist from Göttingen, says: "The vaccina-tion of foxes has encouraged a parasite that is an even more serious threat to us today than

Not all biologists agree about the dimensions of the problem and the long incubation time makes it difficult to prove the connection between the beginning of the mass antirabies campaign and the in-creased incidence of the

"Unfortunately we do not yet have reliable data about the spread of this highly dangerous parasite," says Professor Peter Kern, who has been treating patients afflicted with the parasites - Echinococcus granulosus.

"First tests do suggest though that many more people have been infected than previously suspected, especially in southern Germany."

The fox takes in the tapeworm when eating dead sheep or other animals. The larva is excreted by the fox and the parasite's eggs, which are very light, float into the air. They settle into the coats of does or cats which, when stroked. pass it on to humans. The disease can be treated and is rarely fatal.

The eggs can also be passed to humans through unwashed fruit picked in forests or mushrooms. Once in the human body, the parasite buries itself into soft tissue, particularly the liver.

There it sturts to eat into the host organ, but the process is usually not noticed for several years. About five per cent of victims die as a result of the perasitic invasion. Other pepowerful medication.



Firemen rescue a child from the rubble of the four-storey building in Palermo

Children hurt as home collapses

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

TWO children were injured yesterday when a four-storey building collapsed in central Palermo, firemen said. Heavy rainfall in Sicily over the weekend has been blamed for the accident, but there were also reports of a

Last night rescue workers and volunteers were still looking for possible victims in the rubble, although no one was said to be bombings during the Second World War.

missing, sources said. It had been reported that ten people were trapped but few were inside the rundown building, part of the city's historic centre, when it collapsed. Most of the occupants, who were believed to be five families of immigrant workers, were out at

Many of the buildings in the centre of the 'Sicilian capital are in disrepair, and some are still suffering from damas

when they eat the remains of massacre or slaughter. Figures from the Commu- worming tablets, he says. Cracking ideas for Christmas Alba CTV 3407 14" Remote Control Colour TV £85 (RRP £119.99) Alba CD Stereo Radio Cassette CX623 (RRP £59.99) FREE Body Lotion & 15ml Purse Spray with Eternity 100ml EDP £40.85 FREE 12 x 44cl pack John Smiths Bitter with every 4 cases of Fosters, Fosters Ice or Newcastle Brown purchased in one transaction than the lowest item purchased. You've got Christmas cracked with Hoverspeed and a day trip to France into the bargain. Thousands of inspired gift ideas... in jewellery, confectionery, fragrances, spirits, beers, electrics and more. Duty or tax-free, with up to 65% savings on high street prices. Travel in speed and style Dover - Calais or Folkestone - Boulogne on one of our 3 stunning craft, with mirline style service all the way. Call today. And cracking Christmas shopping is in the bag. 0990 240 241 HOVER*SPEEL*

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Students strike over Kohl's planned cuts

FROM ROGER BOYES IN WORN

GERMAN undergraduates took to the streets and brought universities to a virtual standstill vesterday in a nationwide protest against government plans to end the tradition of the "eternal student".

More than 20 universities are striking against a threat to impose tuition fees, cut interest-free student loans and, above all, reduce the number of years spent studying. The eternal German student is a staple figure of operettas and turn-of-the-century fiction, evoking images of a 30-yearold killing time with flagons of beer while waiting to inherit a sprawling estate. While this is certainly an out-of-date picture, German students spend on average seven years at university; by the time male students have served their stint in the Army, they are often close to 30 before starting

their careers. Helmut Kohl, the Chancelor, has complained that Germany has the oldest students in the world and the youngest pensioners. He wants to abolish the system, create a bigger pool of worksave money to keep down the budget deficit to the 3 per cent required for entry to European economic and monetary union (EMU).

Thousands of students formed a human chain from the Chancellor's office to the Education Ministry. About 30,000 students are due to converge on Bonn tomorrow. Student strikes, with some support from teaching staff, have affected 20 universities and colleges including Frank-furt, Koblenz, Marburg, Kassel and Munich. More are

joining in by the day. In Bonn yesterday lecture halls were occupied by strike committees, a rock band cafeteria and squads of students spread around the city washing car windscreens to illustrate how they will have to support themselves

Under the planned reforms the life of the German student will change dramatically. After one year of study there will be a compulsory consultation with the head of department, who will advise whether the student has any realistic

pleting his course. After two years there will be prelimi-nary exams. If the student fails on the second retake, he or she will be obliged to drop out.

Some faculties will be required to limit the number of semesters and all students will be more closely monitored. At the same time government loans - which in any case benefit only a small fraction of Germany's 1.6 million students - may be scaled back. Students complain that 60

per cent already have to support themselves with parttime jobs. Research by the Hanover-based Higher Edu-cation Information Centre shows that the majority of students now work three days a week (typically as taxi drivers or waitresses) and can spend only two days studying. The financial cuts will mean that this trend increases.

☐ Parliamentary motion: Germany's parliament yester-day backed a plan to move from Bonn to Berlin over the summer of 1999, around the same time as the Government. Parliament's first sitting after the 1999 break will be in the rebuilt Reichstag. (Reuters)

Italy says sorry for invading Ethiopia

FROM RICHARD OWEN

ITALY yesterday apologised for its invasion and occupation of Ethiopia under Mussolini and promised to return a looted obelisk which stands in the centre of Rome.

President Scalfaro, making the first visit by an Italian head of state to Addis Ababa since the Second World War, said Italy had to "purify the past by making amends for its colonialist adventures". After visiting the Italian war cemetery and a memorial to Ethiopian "victims of colonialism", he told President Gidada and Meles Zenawi, the Ethiopian Prime Minister, that Italy would restore the 200-tonne Axum obelisk, taken from the holy city of Axum on Mussoli-ni's orders in 1937, to its "rightful owners". The obelisk, broken into three pieces for transportation, was reerected outside the Fascist-era Ministry for Colonial Africa, now the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation, near the Circus Maximus.

But Alessandra Mussolini. granddaughter of the dictator and an MP for the far-right Alleanza Nazionale, said Italy had nothing to be ashamed of and was itself the victim of plunder. "We should campaign instead for the restitution of ... works of art looted over the centuries by invading armies from Germany, France and Austria," she said.

The veteran commentator Indro Montanelli, who served with the Italian forces, said the occupation had been "relatively humane and benign". He had no objection to the return of the obelisk, which had never had much importance for Italy anyway". Italy agreed in February to give it back but its return has been held up by technical wrangles over how

to transport it to Axum.
Fascist Italy invaded Ethiopa — then called Abys-sinia — in 1935 as part of Mussolini's drive to create an empire and make Italy "great,



Kohl tries to squeeze into an EMU-size shoe in this Pancho cartoon in Le Monde

Yeltsin

steps in

to defend

reform

chief

FROM RICHARD BEESTON

PRESIDENT YELTSIN de-fended Anatoli Chubais, his embattled reform chief, yester-

day and said that he would remain as Deputy Prime Minister despite renewed pressure

After watching his protege being hammered for two

weeks by the media and political rivals over a contro-versial book deal, the Russian

leader intervened to stop fur-

ther speculation about Mr

Chubais's fate and limit eco-

nomic damage.
The father of Russia's priva-

tisation programme and once

regarded as the most powerful

man in the country, Mr

Chubais has seen his influence

evaporate since allegations of bribe-taking earlier this month. He and four govern-ment allies were accused of

accepting £60,000 each as an

advance for an unpublished

book on Russia's privatisa-

tion. The scandal deepened

when it became known that

the publishers were owned by

a bank which has won disput-

ed privatisation bids.

for his dismissal.



vners and s left to avs Liller

Lenin's embalmers reveal the secrets of their art

FROM ROBIN LODGE IN MOSCOW

ways and means of preserving Lenin's corpse in Red Square remained one of the best kept secrets in the country.

Now for the first time, one of

the embalmers has released details of their work, disclosing that from the early days until their institute closed two years age, they continually experimented on bodies to

improve their techniques. In 1924, when Lemin died, his successors determined that his body should be preserved for eternity to allow every inhabitant of the planet the opportunity to visit the relics". It was a demanding task for the time and the embalmers decided they would need to carry out hundreds of experiments to find the best way of withstanding the effects of time and the elements.

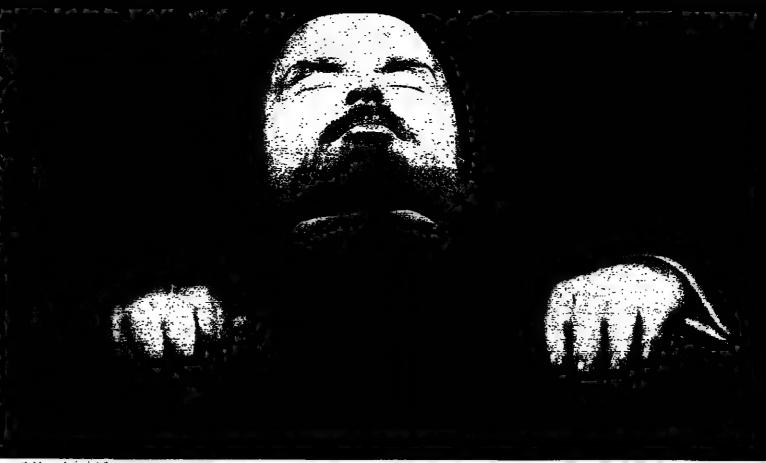
They needed a ready supply

FOR more than 70 years, the of bodies. These were transported to the innocently named Scientific Research Laboratory of Biological Structures, where a replica sarcophagus was set up in conditions identical to those in Red Square. For the next six decades, corpses were delivered to the institute and subjected to every possible test and embalming method. The work was even maintained throughout the Second World War. While most of the

> institute closed. Yuri Romakov, a veteran embalmer who has worked on. Lenin's body since 1952, said in the latest edition of the weekly Itogi that it was thanks to this work that the body was in such a good state today and that the Bolshevik leader

corpses were disposed of after the tests, some "Lenin-dou-

bles" were preserved until the



Lenin's embalmed body on display in its Red Square mausoleum in Moscow. President Yeltsin has suggested that the body should be buried

would need little work now to last for decades. Other experts dispute that, saying that the body still requires twice weekly checks and a full chemical immersion every 18 months to

The theories are unlikely to be put to the test. President Yeltsin has said he favours burying Lenin and plans to hold a nationwide referendum on the issue. The Communist Party says that the Red Square

country's heritage and is vehemently opposed to removing the body, which is still on public display, although it has lost its 24-hour guard of

After the collapse of Soviet power in 1991, the institute ran into hard times and could no longer rely on the regular supply of bodies. For some years, Mr Romakov and his colleagues were able to make up for the lack by using the victims of the gangster shootouts and murders that featured so prominently in the early years of post-Soviet Russia. But state funding dried up altogether in 1995 and the team was forced to abandon its work, although it still attends to Lenin's body un-

For Mr Romakov, there has been some financial compensation in the changes. Embalming recently has become iashionable among the new

of whom feel the need to oneserve themselves for posterity. The skills acquired over the decades by Mr Romakov and his team are once again in high demand.

☐ Tallinn: The Estonian city of Tartu has rescued its statue of Lenin from a warehouse, dusted it off and decided to put it up for sale, officials said yesterday.

The southern Estonian city is to auction the 8ft bronze

minimum price of about £8,250, Hannes Astok, the Deputy Mayor, said. Lenin's statue dominated the centre of the city for almost the whole of the 50 years that Estonia was an enforced member of the former Soviet Union.

But it ended its days in ignominy, carted off to the scrap heap with most other Soviet-era statues when the Baltic state began its drive to

Although Mr Yeltsin has sacked the four senior officials involved and stripped Mr Chubais of his job as Finance Minister, he insisted yesterday that the issue was closed. "I will not give Chubals up," he said. "This is not illegal. It has nothing to do with the criminal code. It is a moralethical problem."

Despite the Kremlin lead-

er's confidence, it was unclear whether his stand would silence protests in the Duma. Valentin Kuptsov, the deputy chairman of the Russian Communist Party, predicted that Mr Yeltsin's announcement would further strain relations between parliament and the executive and insisted that Mr

Chubais should go.
Combined with uncertainty
over Mr Chubais's future, the introduction of a new currency in January, the stalled budget and the failure of the Russian the country could be plunged into a major economic crisis within days.

Kremlin defied in wrangle over tsarist family remains

LOCAL authorities in the their removal and put a Utals city of Yekaterinburg police guard around the have defied President Yeltsin . mortuary where they have and obtained a court order to

up the remains and take them ... burg, where he hopes they will: to Moscow for authentication before they are laid to rest. Eduard Rossel, Governor of Sverdiovsk province, of which

New Includes 15" FST Digital Mon

Yekaterinburg is the capital. has been campaigning against been since they were unearthed in 1991. His objections

and a wrangle ensued. Yesterday the Sverdlovsk provincial court ruled that

removal of the bones would violate Article 244 of the Criminal Code, forbidding mains of Tsar Nicholas II and had already led to the delay "outrages against dead bodhis family from the city where by more than a week in the less. The Moscow officials will they were murdered 79 years departure of the train. He for the time being have to ago.

A train was gent last week lighten to Moscow they would mortuary.

On Mr. Yelsin's orders to pick never return to Yekaterin.

DNA tests done after their ies". The Moscow officials will

discovery appeared to prove they were those of the royal When the officials from the family but doubts remain. It is Prosecutor-General's office hoped tests in Moscow will arrived, they were refused remove all uncertainty.

Crew safe after ship breaks up

Ponta Delgada, Azores: Rescuers airlifted to safety all 34 crew members of a Panamanian-registered container ship which was torn in half yesterday by fierce storms off the mid-Atlantic Azores, the Portuguese Air Force said.

Some of the crew, who were mostly Italian, were taken aboard a Portuguese corvette and others were flown by helicopter to the The stern of the stricken

vessel, the Clara, where the crew took refuge after the ship was broken apart by 30ft waves, was under tow from a Russian tug. (Reuters)

Gibraltar resists pressure by Spain for greater access

DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

GIBRALTAR'S Chief Minister gave a warning yesterday that any softening by the Government that allowed Spain access to the Rock's port and airport would be "unacceptable" and "anathema" to Gibraltarians.

On a quick visit to London to bolster support for Gibraltar before Britain begins a Peter Caruana also renewed calls for an end to Gibraltar's coloniai status and demanded

a referendum on self-determination for the Rock. He said in an interview that the recent Spanish proposal for joint control of Gibraltar's airport was a "non-starter". Spain has put this forward to overcome British objections to its membership of Nato's military committee as long as there are restrictions on the use of

Gibraltar. Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, had been "robust" in asserting Nato's demand for free access to Gibraltar as well as Spanish ports. But Mr Caruana pointedly did not

ition on Gibraltar as equally robust. His call for Gibraltar to become a Crown dependency, such as Jersey, or the Isle of Man, was a way of removing the trappings of colonialism without breaking political and constitutional links with Britain, he maintained. Mr Caruana expressed con-

cern that Mr Cook had left Gibraltar and the Falklands out of the promised consultdent territories, suspecting this was because of claims by Spain and Argentina.



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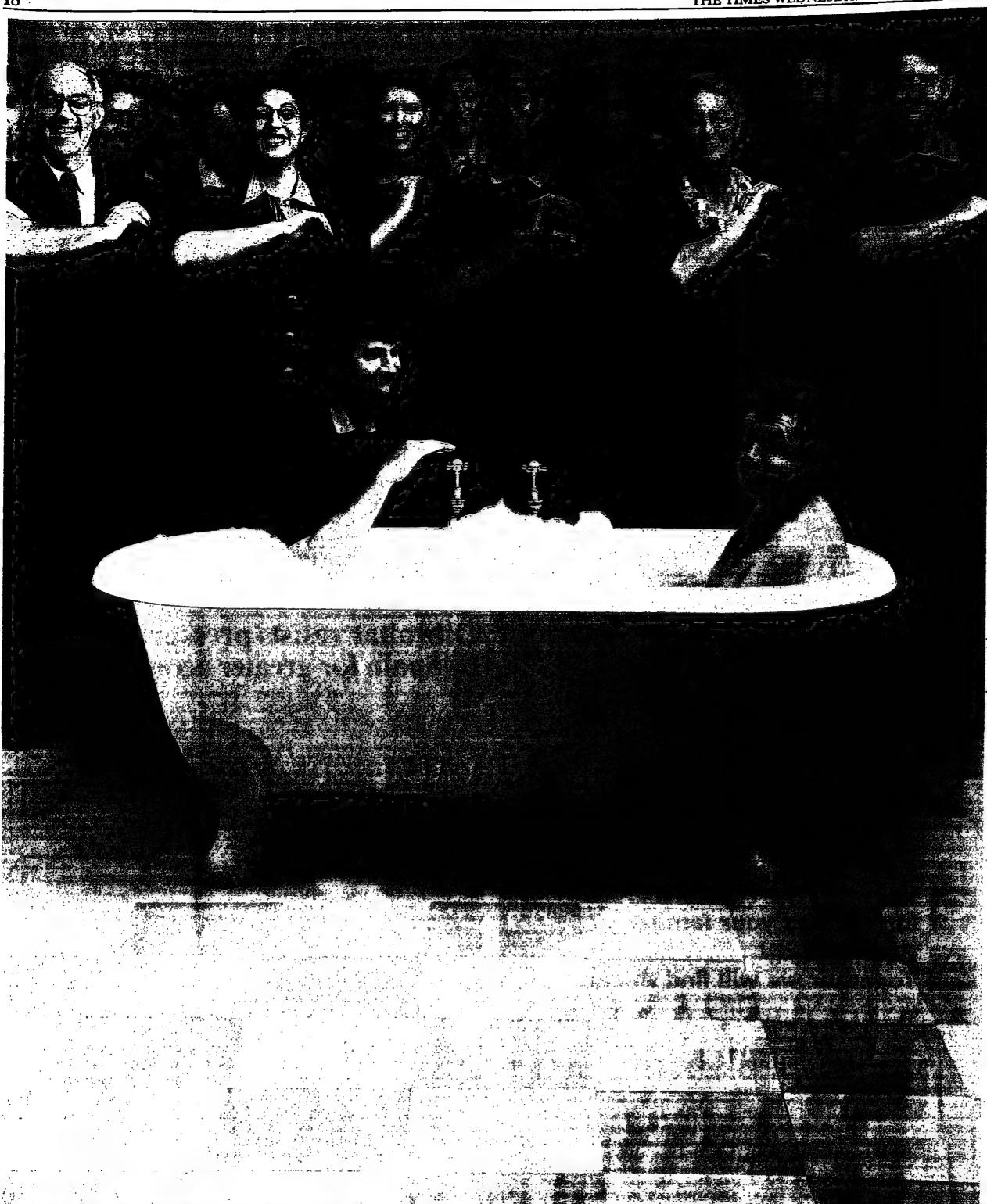
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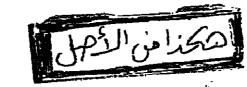
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Netanyahu at bay on land plan PLANS by Binyamin Netanyahu, Israel's Prime Minister, to hand back more of the occupied West Bank in the fighting a Polastinian handoway. Israel's coalition is at risk from MPs at risk from MPs but Covernment followed an earlier revolt by ministers and backbenchers, inside Likud such that withdrawal, we will backbenchers withdrawal, we will such all for three more pull-

occupied West Bank to the Palestinians are threatening the survival of his coalition

Israel Radio reported that the proposed handover of a further 6-8 per cent of the land conquered in 1967 will be discussed at emergency meet-ings of the Cabinet and of the parliamentary faction of Mr Netanyahu's ruling Likud party today. A spokesman for Mr Netanyahu said the figure was "misleading" and that in total Israel was offering Yassir Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Authority, a new package which would give the Palestin-

fighting a Palestinian handover

between Israel and the United States over Mr Netanyahu's

attitude to the peace process. His office disclosed that he

told officials to halt efforts to

try to arrange an elusive summit with President Clin-

ton. Speculation has been rife in Washington that he has

lost faith in Mr Netanyahu

and blames him for the em-

Christopher Walker reports

per cent of the West Bank in advance of negotiations on its final status. Western officials said the 6-8 per cent figure referred to territory still under total Israeli control, rather than areas already under only partial control which will also be included in the new offer. Israeli official will fly to Cairo

today to discuss the plan.

The threatened revolt against further implementabarrassing failure to unite the Arab coalition against Iraq.
The revolt by ultra-nationaltion of the Oslo peace accordcame amid growing tension

which resulted in a failed attempt to overthrow him while he was visiting the US and Britain last week.

Palestinian officials rejected outright the reported offer of a further 6-8 per cent handover of territory. They are demanding at least a further 30 per cent of land still under total Israeli control, and claim to have won growing US sympa-thy for their case.

Michael Kleiner, the backbench leader of the campaign by hardline religious and right-wing coalition members to overturn Mr Netanyahu's shaky 66-54 Knesset majority, act to bring down the Government '

corridors of the Knesset, Mr Kleiner said that ten coalition deputies belonging to his Land of Israel Front had already pledged to topple Mr Netanyahu if the withdrawal was ordered. Diplomats said the US was demanding a withdrawal from at least 14 per cent of the land still under totai Israeli control, illustrat-ing Mr Netanyahu's dilemma in satisfying all parties.

Mr Netanyahu came to power last year resisting the land-for-peace deals signed by the Labour government but

promising to uphold Israel's US-backed commitments, which call for three more pullbacks. His first-stage offer of 2 per cent was rejected by the Palestinians as derisory. Commentators said Mr As arguments raged in the

with the main opposition Labour Party, which supports further withdrawals but is also determined to press for new elections. Israel Radio said Labour was split, with doves such as Yossi Beilin willing to provide Mr Netanyahu with the parliamentary cushion necessary to push ahead with a new withdrawal, while Ehud Barak, the Labour leader, was determined to and support any noconfidence motion.

Skeletons in desert thought to be those of Pinochet victims

By Gabriella Gamini, south america correspondent

CHILEAN human rights workers have discovered a line of nameless graves, filled with 58 bullet-riddled skeletons, in the remote Atacama desert more than 1,000 miles north of

the capital, Santiago.

DNA tests will be carried out on the bones to verify suspicions that they are those of political prisoners tortured by Chile's secret police, during General Augusto Pinacher's military dictatorship, between 1973 and 1990

s object

real by

skipper

58 men and women in a desolate area which is near an abandoned building that was same day." used in 1973 as a torture centre by General Pinochet's secret,



police," said Felipe Valenzuela, the centre-left congressman for Antofagasta, the biggest city near the Atacama desert. The bones have been taken to a medical institute in the northern port city.

"They were buried in pits, in wooden coffins, only about 20 cm below ground. Some bones are fractured and most of the skulls have bullet holes, which indicates that these victims suffered torture and execution." Señor Valenzuela We found the skeletons of said. It also seems that they men and women in a were all buried at the same time and perhaps killed on the

> A group of human rights activists and a team of forensic anthropologists who specialise in recovering remains of dictatorship victims, had been searching the Atacama desert area, the site of several clanestine detention centres used by the secret police.

Official figures show that 3,172 people were killed and "disappeared" during Chile's dictatorship years. General Pinochet set up a notorious police force to crush any signs Only a few of the bodies

have been recovered so far, and this is the first time that a large number of well-pre-served skeletons, which can be matched with medical and



Short aids fight to halt abuse of women

By MICHAEL BINYON DIFLOMATIC EDITOR

CLARE SHORT. Secretary for International Development, of £550,000 to a United Nations trust established to stop violence against women.

Speaking on the Interna-tional Day of Action Against Violence Against Women, she said violence against women was "human rights abuse on a throughout the life cycle, from female infanticide to the abuse of widows. Any strategy to end violence would have to involve a transformation in malefemale relationships, she told the British charity Womankind Worldwide.

She said that gender-related violence happened throughout the world without discrimination as to age, class or ethnicity. "All women — everywhere have been touched by it." Ms Short has a strong person-al interest in the issue. She has headed a women's subcommittee of the Labour national executive and for years has been chair of the Women's Committee of the Socialist International.

Her new Department has made gender equality an integral part of its approach to development. Officials said that all aid projects were designed with gender equality

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Uproar as death-threat MP tapes 'last' message

FROM ROGER MAYNARD IN SYDNEY

PAULINE HANSON, the maverick Australian politi-cian whose One Nation Party argues for a halt to Asian immigration and an end to Aboriginal bandouts, was at the centre of a new controversy last night after recording a video to be televised should

she be assassinated. Branded a racist and a bigot, she still enjoys widespread support but said she made the tape after death threats. In the recording she says: "Fellow Australians, if you are seeing me now it means I have been murdered. For the sake of our children

and our children's children. you must fight on." The tape, an excerpt from which was broadcast on Australian television last night. provoked upmar during par-

lamentary question time. The controversy coincided with a debate on the Government's Aboriginal land rights Bill, which makes it harder for them to claim

their title rights. Yesterday more than 1.000 profesters marched on Parlia-ment House calling the Bill racist and unfair.

Photograph, page 26

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'Pagans have had 2,000 years of bad

Jason Cowley on the revival of witches, wizards and magic

press'

hen a man stops believing in God, to paraphrase doesn't then believe in nothing, he believes in everything in anything. As we approach the end of the century. traditionally a time of convulsion and rising superstition, there is certainly a feeling among more and more people that they are lost without belief; that science does not have all the answers. But where to turn?

In this country, where traditional Christianity appears increasingly incapable of filling the God-shaped hole in our lives, the fastest growing reli-gion, if indeed it is one, is neopaganism: a belief system rooted in the myths, cosmic connections and earth mysteries of prehistory. There was a flowering of interest in pagan rituals in Britain and France in the 1890s, but, unlike today, it did not command popular

There are, says the Inter-Faith Network at Derby Univ-ersity, more than 120,000 practising pagans in Britain. Many hundreds of thousands more, especially among the rebellious young (Leeds Univ-ersity has had its own pagan chaplain since 1994), borrow the symbols of paganism without adhering strictly to one of its four principal traditions: witchcraft (or wicca), druidry, shamanism and Odinism, which draws on Norse, Viking and Anglo-Saxon myths.

The appeal of paganism lies broadly in its intense exoticism and creative adaptability. It is enormously edectic and can absorb anything: ecofriendliness, anti-road protests, per-sonal growth, radical feminalternative healing,

Most pagans devise their own rituals, expressions of homespun spirituality. Their year begins with Hallowe'en (Samhain), and moves through eight distinct phases



Witches Steve Paine and Kate West with their baby son, Taliesin. The couple met through witchcraft, dress in robes and gather in dark forests to worship and chant

following the cycles of the seasons and the moon. As Ronald Hutton, Profes-

sor of History at Bristol University, explains: "Most pagans work with the notion of gods and goddesses. Some believe in them literally as independent beings; others regard them merely as symbols of natural forces or of certain human qualities. Paganism is essentially a Post-Modern religion but one, paradoxically, that is older than all the other faiths in Europe.

"Unlike the great monotheistic religions, which prescribe how you should feel about the divine, paganism says you should simply feel the divine - now work out exactly what that means for yourself."

In this model, personal experience is everything; we can

create our own religious experience. This has radical consequences: pagans have no sacred text of revelation or scripture, no fixed belief in a single divine being or in any concept of judgment and

There is no ultimate book of right and wrong in pagan-ism," says Dave Smith, a musician and practising druid. "It is common sense and family values, believe it or

The maxim of all pagens is, "Do what you will if it harms none". Adherence to this, along with acceptance of the British Pagan Federation's three tests of belief, is common to all wings of the faith. "The three maxims," says Professor Hutton, "are that you should believe that the divine is

female as well as male which means that you accept priests and priestesses; that nature has inherent divinity in it; and that there is no set of laws given by the divine to human beings - the ethics adopted by pagans are grounded in humanity."

This benign pantheism and nature-worship is strikingly different from the stereotype of pagans as demonic night creatures, indulging in orgies of black magic and satanism. The last witch was burnt in Britain in 1728, but anyone introducing themselves as a witch in polite society is still likely to be mocked and Still, Steve Paine and Kate

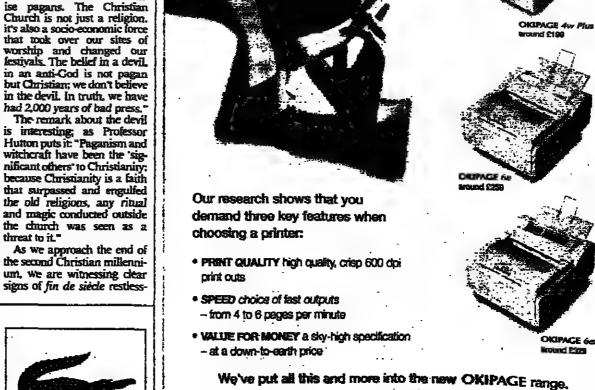
West, who live with their baby son, Taliesin, in Runcom, Cheshire, are proud to call hemselves witches. They met through their local coven, and unselfconsciously dress in robes, gathering in dark forsts to worship and chant. Witchcraft is a religion that predates Christianity but has been reinvented for modern usage," says Kate, 40, who together with 35-year-old Steve can be seen in a documentary this Sunday attempting to use magic and ritual to divine the sex of their unborn child (they vere wrong).

Kate was drawn to paganism after becoming disenchanted with orthodox religion and the hegemony of science. "I wanted to create my own belief system. The orthodox church doesn't leave any scope for the human imagination. So I established my own ground rules and searched for a religion that matched them:

he has met some hostility — abusive let-ters. excrement smeared on the letterbox of the "esoteric" shop she used to run in Cheshire but remains surprised by most people's tolerance. As for satanism and black magic, she says. "Magic is neither black nor white: it's how it's used Christians' interests to demonise pagans. The Christian Church is not just a religion. it's also a socio-economic force that took over our sites of worship and changed our festivals. The belief in a devil. in an anti-God is not pagan but Christian; we don't believe in the devil. In truth, we have had 2,000 years of bad press.

The remark about the devil is interesting; as Professor Hutton puts it: "Paganism and witchcraft have been the 'significant others' to Christianity; because Christianity is a faith that surpassed and engulfed the old religious, any ritual and magic conducted outside the church was seen as a threat to it."

um, we are witnessing clear signs of fin de siècle restless-



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Pagans are free to develop individual rituals and beliefs

New

est in mythology and paganism, and the popularity of astrology, alternative medicine, New Age literature and programmes like the X-Files.

In the hysteria of mourning that followed the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, and during the Louise Woodward trial, this radical uncertainty was made almost tangible — a

powerful feeling that we are at. the end of something, "I think this is to be welcomed," says Mr Paine. "People are changing their viewpoints. They are more self-questioning and are turning away from the com-mercial, sterilised world of the traditional Church."

So are we about to enter a new age of unreason? An age defined by magical explana-

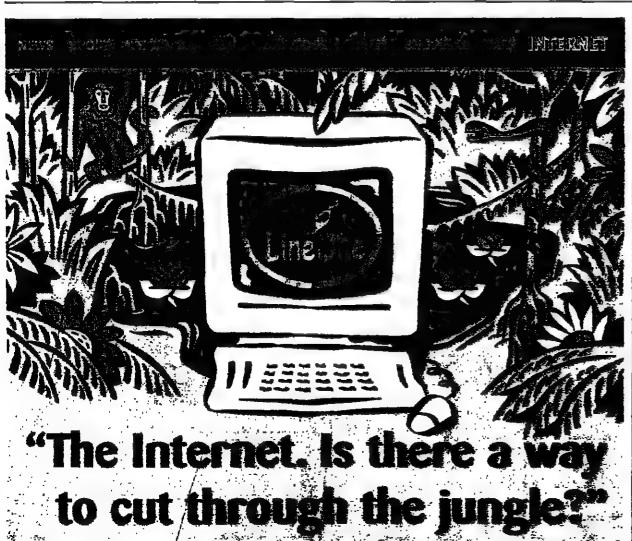
tions of the world and a reaction against the hard ra-tionality of science, against what the veteran theologian Don Cuppitt calls "dreams of a final theory of everything"? Professor Hutton predicts that paganism will be one of the most important and culturally most pervasive of "a constella-tion of faiths available to cater for different spiritual needs, in a society in which religion is increasingly disestablished and privatised.

John Haldane, Professor of Philosophy at St Andrews University, is more circumspect. He agrees that supersti-tion tends to tarive in periods of anxiety, but adds that the drift towards paganism and other ersatz or substitute religions is not altogether discouraging. For it reminds us that the human soul is incomplete without a spiritual dimension.

"We become less discriminating in our belief as our faith in the traditional liturgies of the orthodox church declines," he says, "But we never stop wanting to satisfy our hunger to believe. The lesson for the established church in what is happening is that it should gets its act together and start addressing our deepest spiriinal urges."

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from Oki



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The mistress bond

It pays for jilted wives and mistresses to gang up on errant husbands, says Maureen Freely

here is it written that wives and mistresses must be enemies for life? They have so much in common, and, as my friend Ellen is forever pointing out. they can only gain by learning to co-operate.

She attributes her happy marriage to the fact that her husband has more than a dozen mistresses. He's a "dear", but a very exhausting one because things in the house have to be "just so". If she so much as picks up a newspaper, he goes into a sulk. But when she decides that she's had enough, all she has to do is to pick up the phone and ring Sarah-Jane in Paris or Gabrielle, in San Francisco and ask them if they wouldn't mind taking him off her hands for a few weeks. "I think of them as child-minders," she says, "I don't know what I'd do without them."

It's unlikely that relations between Earl Spencer's wife, Victoria, and his former mistress, Chantal Collopy, have ever been this cosy. At the outset, they must have been outright enemies. And for good reason. When the Earl decided to move his family to South Africa early last year, his affair with Chantal had been going on for seven months. It must have been terribly painful for Victoria to start a new life in a new country if she knew about it.

She had had plenty of practice, though. The Earl has never been good at keeping his love life private. It wasn't just the tabloids. It was alleged in court that he liked to brag. When Victoria returned home after five months at a clinic receiving treatment for drink problems and anorexia, he told her that in her absence he had slept with ten or 12 women. He used the same brutal tactics when he called her into his bathroom at Althorp to ask for a divorce. According to Victoria's lawyer, he told her that he didn't love



Female solidarity: Earl Spencer's former lover Chantal Collopy, left, and his wife, Victoria, after their court appearance

no good as a wife. It seems that he didn't think highly of himself as a husband, either. In a letter to Chantal, he admitted that he had been vicious and callous to Victoria and was something of a bully. Chantal got a taste of the same medicine. She left her clothing tycoon husband for Earl Spencer, and then he dropped her, too. That, in any event, is the story that Victoria's lawyer told a Cape Town courtroom her any more and that she was on Monday. Both Victoria and

Chantal were in attendance. The wife wore a cream suit. the former mistress was in black. Leaving court together, they made a pretty picture of female solidarity. But how much was for the cameras? How much was real?

Judging from my own expe-rience of love triangles, I'd say 100 per cent. There is nothing like a common enemy for torging an alliance. The worst part about sharing a man with another woman is that if you

want to find out more about her, you usually have to ask the lout himself - an unreliable narrator if ever there was one. But if he ends up treating both of you badly and you happen to find yourself at, say, the same party ...

"You mean — he played the bed trick on you, too?" I once had the pleasure of hearing one woman say to another at a party where I met three of an ex-lover's exes. He was there, too, and not his usual boister-

ous self. When he heard the words "bed" and "trick" together, he shrank into his jacket as if he wished it were a tortoise shell. But he got off lightly. The Earl is going to need something more along the lines of a tank.

It's not just revenge that these women are after. If that was all they wanted, they would have gone about it in the old-fashioned way - by putting on a dignified mask in public and then twisting the knife behind the scenes. This has always been the wisest course if you are convinced that it's a man's world — you play by the rules because if you don't, men might not feel obliged to be nice to you.

If you've been around for a while, you'll know that it still is a man's world. What's different now is that young women go into marriage and mother hood assuming that it isn't. What a shock it must have

been for Victoria and Chantal to find out the hard way how easy it is for someone, especially someone with a title, to do whatever the hell he wants and not take the consequences! But their response shows that they still retain some of their premarital girl power.

Yor Victoria, the pending divorce case is first and foremost a business matter. Earl Spencer is worth an estimated E6 million: with family assets of £100 million. The settlement he offered her was £300,000. Naturally, she wants more.

Judging by what other women in her position have been saying lately, it won't be pure avarice that is driving her. Like Chantal, she will have decided that wives and mothers like her are worth

Working with Chantal in-stead of against her, she is likely to get more, too. Which is good, because they both have bills to pay - after all, they're single mothers now with six children to support between them. But I also see a hairder glint in their eyes. I think they are making a stand against entrenched male priviege. This may seem strange when you think of how many privileges they already have, and the sort of privileges they are fighting for, but strange or not, it is also significant. In the final chapter of The

Female Eunuch, Germaine Greer made a strong case for sisters not being sisters unless they threw away their high heels and high fashion and said no to marriage and domesticity. But in the age of Diana, Princess of Wales, it is discarded wives and single mothers who are suddenly the most militant. Except that they don't want less marriage and domesticity. They want better, more lasting vows, more time at home and more financial security. Like the countesses and high-society mistresses who have set themselves up as the new Germaines, they know how to count. Matron power. Who would ever have predicted it?

Realities of divorce + Fussy eaters + Boarding schools

Low on happy endings

the acrimony that, despite the best intentions, overtook the break-up of Paula Yates and Bob Geldof's marriage, and as the story unfurls of Earl Spencer's broken marital record, it is hard to deny the viciousness, bitterness and hissing enmity that is the particular unsalubrious ter-

ritory of divorce. Who would want to deny it, you might ask. Even if we weren i fed **crimination**

and revela-(not only) tabloid of us have been. some time

sob stories of our friends. We all know that there is no such thing as the amicable break-up of a marriage. Or if there is, it is of the most specious sort, and always at one of the partner's emotional expense. But there is someone who

wants to deny this; indeed, has something of a vested interest in doing so, and that is Fergie. Her complaints last week at not being fully included in the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh's anniverary celebrations were aired as if she truly believed their very jubilant centre. But when you get divorced

you lose any right to be included as a member of your former spouse's family. That's what divorce means. And to be honest, for most people that's one of the advantages. After all, if you want to liberate yourself from an unloved husband.

why remain shackled to his family? When married, one takes on duties and obliga-Nigella

THE PARTY STREET or other, bombarded with the tions which, when the marriage is dissolved, are dissolved along with it. If there

> with their grandparents but that doesn't mean one has to get in on the act, too. Now, I'm sure it's all lovely and civilised when a divorce remains on genuinely friendly terms with the parents of her ex-husband, but one

are children, one has a

different duty - namely to support their relationship

should hardly expect it. If I divorced my husband - and there are definitely no plans - I certainly wouldn't

that she had a right to be at expect to be invited to his parents' golden wedding anniversary, not even il relations were warm: of all occasions, anyway, it would

be stunningly inappropriate. Divorce indicates rupture. and there's no way around it. You could, I suppose, see it as a good sign if we fail to acknowledge the full implications of divorce; one might deduce that we have so much

the wedding bonds that we really do believe that no man can tear them asunder. And there must something in that. But per-

haps, we have allowed ourselves or some of us have - to fall too easily for the modern palliative sophistries: namely, that it is possible to divorce and remain "the bestest of friends"; that to break up a family is not necessarily a painful thing to do; and that although it might mean revising the sleeping arrangements, deep

down it changes nothing. It changes everything - as the Duchess of York, as she still insists on styling herself. seems only just beginning to

Boarding school is abuse, not education

THIS WEEK should have seen the launch of a campaign forged by a radical new body: its aim, to impress upon all of us just how wrong we are about boarding schools. They are not cold, brutish places where the children are flogged and boys sodomised. They are not archaic institutions. They are not repositories for unloved children. Got it?

Unfortunately, a couple of raids on just such schools, which disclosed potential evidence of child pornography, have rather put a damper on these plans.

Not, of course, that all boarding schools are dens of paedophilia and kiddie-porn. Although I should say that I have never met a man who went to boarding school who hasn't had some experience of being sexually exploited in some form or another by a member of staff, even if it was being thrashed for the master's gratification rather than being actually seduced.

A lot of these people seem unharmed by the experience - and do themselves claim to be; they have scant regard for modern sensitivity towards child abuse, which may itself not

bit guilty when faced with the remarks, made by the

president of the Girls'

Schools Association, to the

effect that we have all pandered to our children, from

habyhood onward, so much

that they have no chance but

to grow up to be terminally

fussy eaters. Few of us do

what our parents did, which

is to insist that they eat

everything on their plates.

And we go so far as to ask

exactly be a healthy sign. I do see there is a contemporary argument for boarding school. If both parents are working all hours and don't have time to pay enough attention to their children, I dare say these children might benefit. And I admit there is a difference in sending a child to boarding school at seven when it can never not be a cruelty - and at 13, when children may genuinely express a

preference. But sending children away is a strange thing to do. Why would anyone want to do it?

Not only do the children feel rejected indeed, are rejected - but they tend to feel more at home at school than with their parents. This is what people prize as "selfsufficiency". But is it worth turning your children into relative and polite strangers for them to acquire it? In this, I'm a modern: I believe that giving children love and confidence is the way for them to become truly selfsufficient. If you can do that and send them to boarding school, fine. Otherwise, it's just about learning to be tough, to be invulnerable; in short, about being a survivor.

WHAT parent of my generation doesn't feel just a little My child, the congealed and hateful that I had to eat. I think it's omnivore

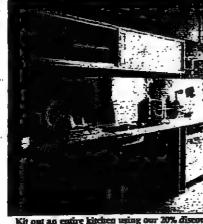
rather than tell them what they're going to eat.
I cannot believe that that makes them grow up picky. Evidence shows most of all that the children of fussy eaters become fussy eaters. I don't believe that I was bullied into being someone who could eat everything because I was left sitting at a

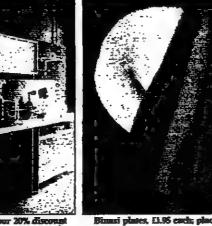
family of eaters who find it

hard not to eat everything. I do think you've got to start off by giving a child everything possible to eat, and I think some firmness is necessary, as indeed it always is with children, but I suspect post-school faddi-ness is inevitable, but not irrevocable. With the right foundations, and not too much fuss, a child will revert to omniverous type.

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Getting the NHS off its sickbed

Alan Milburn outlines Labour's

prescription for an ailing service

The National Health Service is nearing its 50th birthday. At its best, it is still the envy of the world. But, creaking under a Tory legacy of record waiting lists and financial deficit, it is in urgent need of modernisation.

It is argued that the only way the NHS can survive is through huge increases in taxation, charges for services or rationing of care. These, however, are not acceptable options. What patients want is a modern, dependable NHS. The Government is committed to providing it.

Pressures on the NHS are often exaggerated. An ageing population, it is believed, will prove an unprecedented burden. Over the past ten years the number of people who lived to the age of 85 and over has increased by some 300,000. But in the coming decade this number will only row by a further 100,000. This means that the NHS will have to cater for an increase only one third of the size of that which it has already dealt

Our health service is a strong and resilient organisation. It has risen to daunting challenges over the past ten years: Aids, more operations for coronary artery bypass

grafts, expensive new drugs for stomach ulcers. Of course, many new will be problems lie ahead but not all of these needed each will increase our health-care bill. As year — and technology adwe will less invasive and find it hence cheaper

treatments, costs in certain areas will be reduced. Heart catheters could increasingly replace bypass grafts, for example, or more day surgery could reduce expensive in-patient care. Taking a longer-term view, the Government's new emphasis on improving public health and tackling inequalities will

The proportion of GDP spent on the health service has changed little over the past 20 years, vacillating between 5 and 6 per cent. But the NHS needs more money. With new Labour it will get it. We are committed to raising spending in real terms every year. Since May I an extra £1,500 million has been invested; taxes have not had to be raised to unaffordable levels to do this, and nor will they be.

But the NHS needs to spend its money more effectively. We have begun to do this by dismantling the Tories' internal market, which institut-ionalised unfairness and wasted effort and resources. Fragmented decision-making lost any financial advantages that collaboration can bring. The Government's ambition is to renew the NHS as a genuinely national service both on grounds of fairness and efficiency. The two go hand in hand. The steps we have already taken to reduce expensive bureaucracy within the service have already freed £100 million from red tape for investment in frontline patient care. Our forthcoming White Paper will complete the jub.

But stripping out unneces-

partially achieve greater effici-ency. This Government would like to go further, by getting doctors and nurses to work with their local health authorities on controlling resources and ensuring that NHS money is spent on effective and cost-efficient treatments.

A more rigorous approach is needed to both new and ernment will introduce fresh ways of raising standards and spreading best practice, both of which have been hampered by an internal market which encouraged secrecy and wide regional variations. Day-case surgery rates, for instance, vary from 50 per cent to 70 per cent across the country despite down costs. The prescription by GPS of generic drugs, which are identical to more expensive branded ones, varies by 50 per cent between health authorities - let alone

between individual practices. It is not just that precious NHS resources are being wasted on expensive or inappropriate treatments. Patients are the real losers because when standards of treatment vary it is they who are put at risk. The recent failures of

breast cancer screening at Exeter and cervical cancer screening in Kent demonstrated this. A recent report on breast cancer treatment showed that our relative position compared with some other countries, and the degree of varia-

ing and shocking.
To sustain the NHS while making it both modern and dependable we need clearer statements of how services should be delivered, more rigorous assessment of clinical and cost-effective treatments and better ways of ensuring best practice locally.

consistent, way of identifying whether the health service is delivering what the public rightly expects. A White Paper, to be published next week, will set out the practical measures which will achieve these

I timately, the key to sustaining the NHS is simply political will. People in developed countries rightly demand good health care. That demand can be met in a number of ways. Other countries may do it differently, but often more expensively, less fairly and with no appreciable improvement.

The health of our economy depends on the health of the NHS and not just by ensuring a healthy workforce. The cost effectiveness of the NHS reduces the United Kingdom's tax burden to well below the European Union average, encouraging investment, and strengthening incentives to work and save. It also reduces the inflationary wage pressures seen in employer-based health systems such as Germany. A strong NHS means a competitive Britain.



FINANCE CHIEF VERY SORRY, BUT FOR NOW THERE'S NOT MUCH MORE HE CAN DO ...

Falling into a tiger trap

"Yamaichi has gone," he said. "Not Yamaichi?" I cried. "Not the fourth largest stockbroker in Tokyo?" He nodded. "That must put 7,000 people out of work in a fine country where unemployment is almost unknown and bankruptcy unthinkable." "Yes." he said, "this is a deepening crisis, a precipice, a meltdown." The dominoes were falling. The tigers were mewing. A peril of unmentionable colour was seeping round the globe. I was duly appalled. But not much. I doubt if one person

tion, is both strikin a million has the foggiest idea why the fall of the fourth largest stockbroker in Tokyo should upset Britain's economic equilibrium, let alone lead the Nine O'Clock News. We read that certain Japanese banks over-lent to gangsters to buy office blocks. We are inclined to say, serve them right. We see managers in tears on television, and ponder the thousands of Britons did so without references from the world media to dominoes, precipices

and hara-kiri. True, when banks fail everyone shudders. As Princip's bullet opened the First World War, so the failure of the Kredit Anstallt opened the Great Crash. Banks are curiously personal institutions. They handle our money. But bank failure is like crime. The press may draw tendentious conclusions by accumulating items of bad news. We can choose to panic or not panic. We may see Armaggedon lurking within the fourth largest stockbroker in Tokyo, or we may not.

Given the past month's hysteria about the "tiger economies" of the Pacific Rim, I am surprised there are not queues at every Cashpoint in Britain. The tabloidisation of financial information is now complete. On television, breathless commentators scream the cliches of crisis. "Nothing will ever be the same again." First it was Thailand, "then" Malaysia, then Indonesia, then the Philippines, then Korea, then Hong Kong and "now" Japan. What beautiful symmetry does geography offer at the altar of metaphor. The bubble has burst. "And with globalisation, who can tell what impact this may have on the economies of Western Europe?" Who

Financial panic is usually a func-tion of financial illiteracy. Economics should now be compulsory in school. The author is Minister for If the guru Michael Porter is correct This so-called crisis has exposed the

madness of Asia's corrupt markets

and global commerce is the armed conflict of our age, then commerce should be as vital a part of the curriculum as military service once was. Young people should recognise a price mechanism, economic growth, currency fluctuation and Third World debt. Dismal economics may lack the glamour of war. But if the fourth-largest broker in Tokyo can shatter our peace of mind, we

had better know what is going on.
The answer is largely myth. For the
past five years I have been unable to open a newspaper without seeing a eague table of the startling perfor-

mance of the tigers. They have been the most competitive nations, the fastest growing, the best somehow even the richest. Hong Kong, Korea, Talwan, Malaysia and Singapore jostle for

primacy, watched over by the mother and father of all tigers, Japan and China. Think-tanks compete for Far East contracts by showing Britain and the rest of Europe ever lower in their estimation. Each year the Economist publishes a book of such tables, The Pocket World in Figures. It is mostly rubbish. One table contrives to get Mauritius, Botswana and Bhutan

ahead" of Britain for growth. international league tables of growth, like those of ourput per head, are most mendacious of all. They measure what is measureable - or what a bureaucrat has made up not what is meaningful. Many "highperforming nations" are city states, politically distinct from possibly burdensome hinterlands, such as Singa-pore, Hong Kong and Luxembourg. On this rating, I imagine the City of London, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight would be global tigers. At least the Economist has Britain ahead of New Zealand in "human development", as well as Barbados ahead of Italy and Belorus ahead of Singapore. This must be as crass as

statistics can get. We are next told to remember last year's buzzword, globalisation. Not only are the tigers dynamic, but when they sneeze the whole world catches cold. Yet the world was always global. It was global to the Merchant Venice and his "argosies with portly sail". It was global to Golden Age Holland and its East Indiamen, and to Spain's vast empire. The British Empire was a global commercial entity. Finance was never more international than in the days of the

Medici and the Hanseatic League. Certainly information is globally instantaneous, and thus has a peculiar ability to exaggerate and alarm. Equally global is our ability to switch off. I assume that the failure of 20 Japanese banks

over the past three adjustment, as was the failure of The seamier side of Japanese finance may be revealed, but that does not push Japan over a

nese regulators will be shamed into sorting something out, as the International Monetary Fund will shame the lesser tigers. Financial crises have a habit of brevity. Big bangs and Black Wednesdays swirl into the headlines and depart as swiftly. A day is a long time in yen futures.

I am with Adam Smith. The great god price will supply the hidden hand of correction when markets lose their balance. This applies even to markets distorted and corrupted by crime. We learn that many of the tiger stock-markets are, indeed, corrupt. Protection is offered for unsafe loans to friends. Money is paid to gangsters and drug barons. Savings are poured into property speculations. Yet price

will wield its rod, later if not sooner.
"Market adjustment" is treated as a cynical term for plunging stock values. It is a good term. Markets do not "collapse", any more than do national economies. Prices fall (or rise) when demand and supply are out of balance. They may fail spectacularly where prices have long been distorted by corruption, but that is a market working, not collapsing. Most readers would guess that the Hong Kong index must be at rock bottom after last month's "collapse"

stories. It is not. The Hangseng is higher than a year ago. Stock in the South Sea Company was four times higher after the "bubble" burst in 1720 than it was at flotation. Never bet the farm on a headline. Japan will

Yet a more tenacious myth deserves exposure. It is one beloved of apologists for the Singaporean and other Pacific Rim regimes. This is that they have managed to subordinate politics to economics. A closeknit oligarchy, a few backhanders and not too much democracy are the best way to send the tiger leaping through the jungle. Political maturi-ty, we are told, will follow on its heels.

It need not go before.

I believe this to be wrong. Capitalism, or more strictly free trade, may have supercharged the innately cor-poratist economies of the Pacific. It can do so only for a period. Capitalism requires open and efficient markets. Such markets need polic-ing. They need impartial regulation politics and democratic institutions. They eventually need an educated and questioning population and a welfare state. In other words, they eventually need to be more like

The oriental capitalism of my experience has little in common with the free-enterprise culture of Western Europe and America. I find little appealing in the closed polities that have yielded such speciacular league-tables in the Far East. They may be good for the 100-yard dash, but they are plagued by cronyism, protection, fraud and a lack of restraint on property development. These are crazy markets, imperfect and brittle. Most lack the safety valve of an open democracy to

regulate and adjust them. This is none of my business. My interest is limited to protecting British markets from similar pollution. That is their one security against external shocks from the likes of Yamaichi. This security means a painstaking attention to the detail of financial regulation, conducted under the glare of democratic over-sight. Capitalism is not a necessary condition for democracy, but democracy is a necessary condition for capitalism. As Smith said, capitalism is a "conversation that ends in a conspiracy against the public. The public needs to be on guard. Forget Yamaichi. Remember Lloyd's.

Alan Coren



Just a small thing, perhaps, Ken, but it would give you a point

am a disappointed man. I am a disappointed man because Ken is a disappoint ed man, and he is a disappointed man because, while he has always been an unappointed man, there was a very good chance that, this year, he would have become an appointed one. But he has not. Ken remains as unappointed as a man can be. He still has no genitalia. It will have been no end, as it were, of a

disappointment. Ken is, of course, Barbie's significant other, and his tragedy is that for the past 36 years he has been less significant than he would like, But this year, for the first time, his hopes, at least, would have been raised: this year, and a mere week ago at that, Mattel, who manufacture the titchy couple, announced that Barbie was to be remodelled, in order to become more

She would be given not only a smaller, more credible, and, very important, more politically acceptable bust, but also a more authentic hip-waist rano, a particular benefit of which would be, and I quote, to make it easier to get her clothes on and off. Music, one would imagine, to Ken's ears; until one rang Mattel the next day and learned that Ken's ears would remain his only boncless extremities. Flow can that be, I cried, this

is 1997, these are two devoted young lovers, they are role-modes for millions of modern iffe-wise kids, yet while one of them is actually being rebuilt to facilitate kilt-removal, the other is to be left with no part in all this. But the charming PR woman merely sighed, and told me that that was how maidenhead felt — an answer by which I was quite seriously thrown, until I twigged that Maidenhead was where the Manni executives

indeed, so thrown was I by the entire experience that after ring-ing off I drove down to the Brent Cross toyshoping have a close look at the pair of them; whereupon it was borne in upon me at, in terms of what is require of 1997 role-models, there was more to Ken's shortcomings than didn't meet the eye. For Ken, I concluded, was as politcally incorrect as it was possible, these days, to be he was lean and muscular, he was chiselchinned, his hair was lustrous, his skin was flawless, and the more I turned Ken this way and that, the more offended I grew, not merely in my own behalf but in my emire gender's.

Tow dare Mattel make only Barbie more real-istic Even if Maidenhead felt that the market was not yet prepared for an ungelded Ken, that market has the right to demand that its children be discouraged from regarding youthful handsomeness as the only criterion for desirability. Especially as it is manifestly untrue: seek the girls who look like Barbie, and where do you find them? You find them on the arms of Bernie Ecclestone and Peter Stringfellow and Bill

Wyman and Paul Daniels. Is it not time for Mattel to take account of that? If you can buy 100 accessories to make Ken more conventionally glamorous, why are not as many available to make him less conventionally so, thereby reducing the affront which the unblemished Ken represents to the nation's men? A baid patch range, say, and stick-on plastic paunches in various sizes, knees jointed so as to offer every option from bandy to knock, a large conk, with or without excrescent bristles, flat feet, and a packet of tiny transfers offering everything from liver spots and broken blood-vessels to eczemic flurries

and varicose veins? Yes, of course, there are other desiderata required to boost new Ken's desirability, and Mattel could do themselves considerable commercial good by putting these on the shelves alongside the others: a string of My Little Polo Province My Little Polo Ponies, say, a maniantre suite at the Paris Ritz, two Concorde tickets to the Bahamas, a platinum credit card in Barbie's name, or, better

yet, a plain brown envelope . . . I know what you're thinking: you're thinking: why should Mattel endow Ken with all these items while commung to keep him bereft of the one which would enable him to take advantage of them? But I'm thinking: if only Mattel can be persuaded to pursue the course of realism on which it has just so tentatively embarked, then how far off can that joyous day be when, at last, Maidenhead yields to the feeling that things should no

longer be beyond our Ken?

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Voting riddle

AS Peter Temple-Morris crossed the floor to sit with Labour yesterday, claims were reaching me that he made a rather earlier commitment to Labour: by voting for them. This was despite standing in May as a Conservative, for whom he won election as the Member for Leominster. Recently he justified his decision to sit on the Labour benches by attacking William Hague's hardline opposition to the single currency. But now, it would appear, the one-nation Tory was disillusioned before Hague had

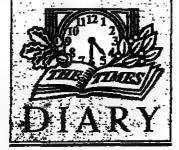
even been elected leader. Temple-Morris has told friends that he voted Labour in the local elections in May 1996, a year before the general election. This raises questions about how he voted in May. The silver fox is mercurial, and enigmatic, as ever. "I would never reveal my voting record." he says. That is a secret between myself and the ballot box." But his local situation is intrigu-

ing. He lives and votes in Hereford, the constituency which adjoins his own. Until the last election the seat was held by Sir Colin Shepherd, a Tory with rather

cooler views on Brussels. One possibility is that he voted for Labour's Chris Chappell. But the Liberal Democrats, who unseated Sir Colin with a 6,648 majority, claim that he voted for their man, Paul Keetch, According to the Lib Dems: "He is good friends with Paul and wanted to see Shepherd out."



CONGRATULATIONS to my old friend Max Hastings. Editor of the Evening Standard, who will pick up an award tonight from the Howard League for Humane Reform of the Penal System. This is in recognition of his paper's reflective and incisive coverage of penal issues over the past year. Odd. His newspaper was recently fined £40,000 in the High Court for contempt of court after a judge had to abort a trial. This was because the paper disclosed that



some of the six men accused had convictions for terrorism - preventing a fair hearing.

Golden couple

FINANCIAL ruin attends those bidden to the marriage of William Hague and Flion Jenkins: they have set up their wedding list at the Wedding Shop, a cripplingly grand agency in Chelsea. Guests will be obliged to purchase goods - selected from some of the capital's most expensive shops - over the phone without viewing them. The service includes lunch at that Knightsbridge trough, Mosim-

ann's, where the couple can discuss

their material marital desires. The

consultation costs £100. Well-

wishers keen to buy them his-and-

her bathrobes could be rebuffed.

"Ffion has had problems with

this," says the shop. "Only people invited to the wedding are allowed to buy."

Colourful past ONE of our new MPs once worked

as a hotel night manager in Amsterdam's red light district, another always uses yellow toothbrushes, while a third used to drop his trousers to prove he was male. These intriguing disclosures will appear in New MPs of 97, by those dedicated Commons watchers, Andrew Roth and Byron Criddle. Dr



"You're a great asset — so we're selling you off

Rudi Vis. Labour MP, told the authors of his job as a young man when he was desperate for work growing up in his native Netherlands. The Independent Martin Bell said that, like his taste in suits, he favours pale colours

even down to his toothbrush. Kerry Pollard, another Labourite, admitted to an early career as an exhibitionist, in response to being teased about his unisex name. Thankfully, such behaviour is no longer necessary - he now sports a beard.

OUENTIN TARANTINO, the Hollywood director whose Reservoir Dogs and Pulp Fiction made Sam Peckinpah seem wimpish, has landed himself in trouble over his liberal use of blood - from environmentalists. In the wake of his latest gore-fest, The Hangman's Daughter, howls are arising about irrevocable damage Tarantino is supposedly doing to historic caves in South Africa - due to fake blood splurging over the walls.

Just fur you

AN ELEVATION to the House of Lords normally heralds a mass slaughter of stoats - for the making of a robe. This horrified the new Baron Thomas of Macclesfield, so he commissioned his own



Fake for: Baron Thomas

custom-made number -- fashioned from synthetic fibres and imported from France. Before he was ennobled he shared the name of that old cad Terry-Thomas, but his politics have always been rather straighter, having formerly been a big note at the right-on Co-operative Bank. "After leaving such an ethical company it would look rather hypocritical of me to wear a stoat around my neck." His shoes at least, I am relieved to learn, are not

JASPER GERARD

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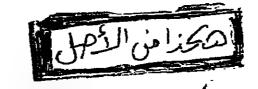
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BROWN'S WAY

To a budget of good sense and wasteful stunts

Gordon Brown's "Pre-Budget Report", delivered yesterday, was both more than and less than a traditional Autumn Statement. For the first time, it contained details of tax changes planned in the next Budget, and promised consultation between now and the spring. But, for the first time and the last, it failed to cover public spending. In the com-ing financial year, Labour has chosen to stick with the plans of the last Government. Next November, the Chancellor will have a greater chance either to cheer or disappoint his backbenchers with the area of government action that they care about most.

For now, they will have to make do with socio-economics rather than macro-economics. Apart from the populist spending pledge of cold weather payments for pensioners. Mr Brown devoted most of his speech to measures that he hopes will help the socially excluded to join the world of work.

If these measures succeed, they should have the added economic bonus of boosting growth without stoking up inflation. As the Chancellor pointed out, skill shortages are becoming a problem, a sure sign that wage and price rises will follow. Whether the young or long-term unemployed can be trained into the vacancies available, however, is another matter. Bricklayers are in short supply, which presents a promising opportunity. But so too are computerprogrammers who can deal with the millennium bug; these are hardly likely to

emerge from the dole queues. The best economic investment Mr Brown made yesterday was to promise £300 million for an extra one million new places in out-ofschool clubs. For many non-working parents - not just those who live on their own lack of childcare is the biggest impediment to taking a job. No-one wants to raise latchkey children, but fitting work around school hours and holidays is not easy. Afterschool and holiday clubs that give children a chance to play, learn or do homework under adult supervision are cheap and plausible

and train operators will offer to New Deal participants, this shows that the Government has learnt lessons in welfare reform from America: that the unemployed will not go back to work unless their childcare and transport difficulties are addressed.

Work also has to be made to pay. Here, Mr Brown's proposed Working Families Tax Credit will help, as will action to withdraw benefits more slowly once recipients start to earn money. A 10p starting rate, though, would be a very blunt instrument. The Chancellor was jeered yesterday when he hinted at a delay in its introduction; he should have been cheered. A 10p starting rate would benefit undeserving rich and deserving poor alike, a real waste of public money which could be much better targeted at the bottom end.

The same criticism could be made of the Chancellor's pension stunt. Why should an ex-British Gas director receive the same help for his heating bill as a pensioner struggling just above the income support level? It would have been more sensible to concentrate the

help on those who need it most. The Chancellor showed a welcome entrepreneurial spirit in promising another cut in the corporation tax rate. This move will infuriate Britain's European partners, who are already trying to pressure this country to harmonise its rates with those on the Continent: Mr Brown is right to resist this pressure: the EU can succeed only if its tax rates are competitive with each other and the rest of the world. It is encouraging to see a Labour Government showing the way.

More corporatist instincts were on show, though, in Mr Brown's attitude to the creative industries. This seems not so much a policy of picking winners as of backing them. Why, if Britain is already so successful in this field, does Government need to intervene? If Messrs Brown and Blair want to be part of "Cool Britannia", there are cheaper ways of achieving that aim. Rock star parties at 10 Downing Street cost a lot solutions. Taken with the discount that bus less than working parties at the DTI.

PREMIER UNDER PRESSURE

Netanyahu's difficulties should not be misinterpreted

Eighteen months after his election as Israel's Prime Minister, Binyamin Netanyahu is under extreme pressure. Members of his own party threatened yesterday to bring down his administration if it handed over additional territory in the West Bank to Yassir Arafat President Clinton will be furious if he does not. Other Likud leaders have been in open and bitter revolt about internal party proposals that would shift power to the central committee controlled by Netanyahu supporters. Avigdor Lieberman, the director of the Prime Minister's Office until his enforced resignation on Sunday, might now face indictment on financial irregularities. This has revived accusations of corruption and impropriety that almost destroyed Mr Netanyahu earlier this year.

Altogether this offers the impression that Mr Netanyahu's days are numbered. That might yet be true but the number may be rather larger than is commonly anticipated. Coalition conflict has been the central feature of Israeli politics. In an attempt to defuse it, a new system was adopted to ensure the direct election of the Prime Minister. Mr Netanyahu is the first figure so selected. Unfortunately, the law of unintended consequences has outsmarted the reformers. Small parties - which did well at the polls last year - have become even more important in the Cabinet and Knesset.

Withdrawal from the West Bank is certainly unpopular within the ruling centre-right coalition. However, if this administration collapsed, the realistic alternatives would be a National Government or fresh elections that could install Ehud Barak, the Labour Party leader, as Prime Minister. It is difficult to see how either development would assist those who oppose further transfers of land to the Palestinian Authority. The hawks are limited in options.

There are similar complexities that mitigate against a coup from within the Likud Party. The Prime Minister is not short of enemies. Benny Begin, ex-Science Minister, Dan Meridor, ex-Finance Minister, and Ehud Olmert, the Mayor of Jerusalem, are united in the view that Mr Netanyahu is an unwelcome outsider. David Levy, the Foreign Minister, and Yitzhak Mordechai, the Defence Minister would serve at a moment's notice. There is no consensus among them about who should succeed and what policies would be pursued. There is also the real problem that two-thirds of the Knesset is required to remove a sitting Prime Minister

without prompting an unwelcome election. Issues exist that could force out Mr Netanyahu prematurely. The insistence of ultra-Orthodox Jews that they alone should oversee religious conversions has proved explosive in Israel, the United States and indeed Britain. The Prime Minister favours compromise but the alienation of one section might be inevitable. The cooling economy, and its pressure on public spending, could also become contentious. The assorted religious, immigrant, and ethnic parties largely exist to maximise their share of the budget. It may be impossible to keep them all satisfied. One or other set of politicians might feel they have a cause that would increase their support in a snap election.

There is thus a danger of badly underestimating Mr Netanyahu's chances of survival or utterly misinterpreting the events, if they arrive, that finally trigger his departure. There is more to Israeli public life than the Middle East peace process. This should be appreciated by outsiders. Tip O'Neill, the former Speaker of the House of Representatives, once famously observed that "all politics is local". His dictum applies as much to Israel today as his native Massachusetts.

PRECIOUS HARVEST

What man has destroyed, science can help man to restore

Coral reefs are the rainforests of the seas, magical environments of multicoloured columns and delicate filigree which lie at the centre of a complex marine chain on which nearly a million species of fish and other ocean life depend. As with the rainforest, scientists are only just beginning to understand the rich medical potential of the genetic material they contain. These ecosystems are extremely fragile. They are dying at an alarming, and accelerating, rate.

This year, the first global survey revealed that a tenth of the world's reefs have deterioriated beyond the point of recovery and 30 per cent more are approaching that state. A mere hundredth of them is officially protected. Time for action is short.

Science is still a long way from identifying all of the causes of degradation - notably, why huge tracts of coral are being ravaged by bacterial and fungal infections which are mostly diseases that did not exist 20 years ago. Possible culprits are the dumping of land-based waste, sedimentation, changes in salinity and in ocean temperature. But other, more easily identifiable threats arise from human activities such as dynamite and cyanide fishing, damage from anchors and careless divers. To these problems, science has come up with a potential solution.

The United States has already taken a lead in reef conservation; it is the only country to ban coral mining in its territorial waters. American scientists are now pioneering techniques of coral propagation which could, by creating alternative sources of supply, put an end to the commercial excuses for taking coral from the wild. Using tiny coral "cuttings", marine biologists at Pittsburgh Aqua-Zoo are growing coral in greenhouses under lightbulbs. The experiment has been so successful that already, the scientists reckon, propagation could provide 25 per cent of North America's needs. The team will shortly start marketing coral to pet stores and biomedical researchers.

This is a good example of science meeting the market to conserve the environment. The technology should be made available to developing countries. The quid pro quo should be agreement to negotiate a worldwide convention for the protection of coral reefs. In the 1980s, DuPont's discovery of a less polluting alternative to chlorofluorocarbons was critical in persuading governments to agree to the Montreal Convention on the ozone layer. In the same way, Pittsburgh Zoo could turn out to have opened the route to protecting the treasure houses of the deep.

From Mr Graeme Williams, QC

'Half a loaf' for

disabled litigants

Sir, The letter from Jean Ritchie, QC (November 19), deals with one of the untoward consequences of the pro-posed withdrawal of legal aid in fav-our of conditional fees for infants and the mentally ill suing for damages. I believe there are others.

For very many years the settlement of such persons claims has, for obvi-ous good reasons of public policy, re-quired the court's approval: otherwise the settlement is invalid.

How can the court approve the settlement of an infant's or mental patient's claim (which will very often include a substantial award for future care and other necessary future expenditure) if it knows that an unquantifiable part of the damages - repre-senting the increase, in the order of 20 per cent, which the plaintiff's lawyers will be entitled to impose under conditional-fee agreements upon their normal fees — will be deducted from the award before it reaches the plaintiff?

How, similarly, can the patient's solicitors and counsel conscientiously advise that (say) £1 million is a proper award, and invite the court to approve it, if they know that, although it is a proper figure, the plaintiff will not in fact receive it in full?

The Lord Chancellor's proposals seem to be based on the principle that half a loaf for some litigants is better than no bread for others, even though the most vulnerable and deserving tigants will thereby be deprived of the bread they need and are entitled to.

Whatever proposals are put into effect, they must surely make special provision to protect those under legal disability.

Yours faithfully, GRAEME WILLIAMS, 13 King's Bench Walk. Temple, EC4. November 19.

National treasures From Mr Mike Rainey

Sir, I read with surprise that government departments are to be allowed to sell "their assets" (reports, November

I had always assumed that the sort of treasures referred to - the Royal Parks, the National Gallery, Marble Arch, etc - belonged to the nation and that the government of the day had responsibility for them. Perhaps I am

An authoritative government statement setting out the precise legal situation might leave a lot of people better reconciled to what appears to be "selling the family silver".

Yours truly. MIKE RAINEY, 10 Malvern Close, Bishops Waltham, Hampshire. November 25.

Case for carriers

From Vice-Admiral Sir Louis Le Bailly

Sir, There can be little doubt that the need for mobile landing platforms for RN and RAF and Army aircraft, or for mobile missile ships is more pressing than it was even in the early Sixties (letter, November 18).

The problems then were that the Director General (Ships) was being invited to design a conventionally fuelled steam-driven carrier of comparable fighting power to the vast US carriers then on the stocks. Furthermore, the Board of Admiralty were asking him in terms of operational equipment and machinery to insert a quart into a pint pot in the form of displacement cost. And even then it came out at £500 million plus per

in 1962, with Hawker-Siddeley's help, a sketch design was produced of a mini-carrier with gas turbines, not far removed from the Invincible. This later filled the gap when Denis Healey rightly removed the mammoths from the drawing board.

The problems are equally difficult today. But without the need for steam propulsion, and again with the help of the aircraft industry, the incomparable Royal Corps of Naval Constructors will surely be able to design a class of aircraft or missile carrier within acceptable financial con-

Yours truly, LOUIS Le BAILLY, Garlands House. St Tudy, Bodmin, Cornwall.

Wigs and gowns

From Mr Frank L. Shaw, JP

Sir, His Honour Judge Peter Smith (letter, November 24) may take comfort in the anonymity conferred by his wig and gown, but spare a thought for the 30,000 lay magistrates in this country who impose significant penalties on those they find guilty of serious offences.

They have no benefit of juridical garments and are far more likely to meet in the community those who have appeared before them.

Yours sincerely, FRANK SHAW (Pro-Chancellor and Chairman of the Board of Governors), University of Central England in Birmingham, Perry Barr, Birmingham. November 24.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Taking sides on foxhunting debate

From Mr Mike Huskisson

Sir, For a nation that prides itself on its concern for wildlife and its allembracing compassion we should not lag behind any country in wildlife pro-tection. On Friday next MPs should take the opportunity to catch up afforded by Michael Foster's Wild Mammals (Hunting with Dogs) Bill.

We may be late, but with France and the Republic of Ireland still allow-ing the hounding of wildlife we need not be last. Foxhunting and its like is bullying in fancy dress. There should be no place for such savagery in a compassionate society.

Yours faithfully, M. J. HUSKISSON, Animal Welfare Information Service, PO Box 8, Halesworth, Suffolk.

November 22

From Mr Neil Moore

Sir, It is one thing to disapprove of hunting, quite another to seek to impose that view on others by legisla-

I am alarmed by the arrogant, even totalitarian, attitude which says, in effect: "I do not approve, therefore you must not do it."

NEIL MOORE. Le Bercail, St Mawes, Cornwall. November 24.

From Lord Renton, QC Sir, Nobody wants foxes exterminated, but their numbers have to be

controlled. If they are not killed by being hunt-

ed they are snared, trapped or poisoned, generally causing them great pain and slow death; or they can be shot which, if they are wounded and escape often causes gangrene, a horrible death. They can be dealt with as a rule by spotlighting and shooting with

rifles at night, but not everyone has the requisite equipment and man-power for that, nor is the method always effective.

When hunted with hounds, foxes are killed within five or six seconds (which I have often counted) after hounds close in on them. This is the quickest, most certain and least painful death of all, even after a long

Hunting is, therefore, normally less cruel than other ways of killing foxes.

Yours truly, DAVID RENTON, House of Lords. November 24.

From Mr R. P. Thompson

RSPCA's full-page advertisement showing three dead foxes, with the message that foxes are disembowelled alive by hounds during hunting. This is obviously ridiculous. Any attempt to bite the underside of a live fox would expose the hound's neck to the fox's very sharp teeth. The hound will do as its ancestors have done for thousands of years and kill quickly, with minimum risk of retaliation, by biting the back of the neck.

Sir, You featured on November 17 the

The dead fox may well be disembowelled subsequently when the rest of the pack arrives. To say that this is cruel is like saying that cutting up a dead lamb, cooking and chewing it is cruel.

There is no evidence that these are not photographs of foxes killed on the roads or by other means. The middle one, which has no fur on its brush, was obviously suffering from mange, a highly contagious disease which is often mortal.

Yours faithfully. R. P. THOMPSON, New Hayes, Chard, Somerset.

Threat of BSE 'nightmare' in the US

From Mr Sheldon Rampton and Mr John Stauber

Sir, There is indeed, as you reported (November 14), strong evidence suggesting that a form of transmissible spongiform encephalopathy (TSE) occurs in US cattle, but we do not at-tempt in our book, Mad Cow USA: Could the nightmare happen here?, to offer a quantitative estimate of the number of affected animals.

Clarence Gibbs, a leading TSE researcher of the US National Institutes of Health who shares our conclusions. ues that "All mammalian species thus far tested have the prion protein which causes mad cow disease and the other TSEs. As a result, Gibbs explains, "Every mammalian species in the world should have its own spongiform encephalopathy, which means that the disease is endemic in all species. You cannot escape it."

Gibbs expects that TSE in US cattle would be found at a rate of one per million animals per year — considerably less than the "thousands" of cases claimed in your report. A disease this rare becomes a serious problem only through the practice of "animal cannibalism" - the feeding of rendered animal proteins back to their own species, which enables the disease to multiply, as happened in Britain.

Hoffnung recalled

From Ms Judy Fitton

Sir, Gerard (not Gerald) Hoffnung to whom you refer in your leading article of November 19, "Once more with paper bag" - was a renowned car-toonist (and raconteur) who specialised in musical subjects. He was not a composer.

He also played the tuba as an amateur in the Morley College Symphony Orchestra, to which he dedicated a book of musical cartoons. It was then decided to "bring the book to life" and the Hoffnung comic concerts were created.

For the first of these (at which I played in the Royal Festival Hall in 1956) Sir Malcolm Arnold was commissioned to write a Grand Grand Overture; it included parts for three vacuum cleaners, a floor polisher and

We also performed the Concerto for Hose Pipe and Strings, not composed by Hoffnung but based on a composi-

Oxbridge MPs From Mr Robin Hayley

Sir, Mr Duncan Fallowell (letter, Nov-

ember 20) finds it "quite terrifying" that the editor of Oxford Today, the official university magazine, considers it a healthy sign that the proportion of MPs educated at Oxbridge is in I find myself in complete agreement

with the editor, whose allegiance is presumably to the universities. That fewer graduates from these institutions are now attracted to the sordid and intellectually vacuous world of politics can only reflect well on the institutions themselves.

Yours faithfully. ROBIN HAYLEY, 5 Upper Wimpole Street, WI. November 20.

> Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046. e-mail in: letteremthe-times co.uk

book was to draw attention to the fact that this feeding practice, which has been banned in Britain since the late 1980s, continues on a massive scale in the United States. While it continues. the US remains in danger of a health and economic nightmare like the one in the UK. The US Government did not take

Our motivation for writing our

any action to restrict the practice of animal cannibalism, even in cows, until August 1997, and even this was too little, too late. Cows are still nourished here on fats and blood plasma derived from the rendered remains of their own species. We believe, given this, that Europe

is being very prudent in refusing to grant "BSE-free" certification to USsourced pharmaceuticals and cosmetics. Britain's experience with BSE has taught a painful lesson about the need for precaution when dealing with human and animal health issues. It is a lesson which, unfortunately, has still not been absorbed by the US Government and animal industry.

SHELDON RAMPTON, JOHN STAUBER. 3318 Gregory Street, Madison, Wisconsin 53711. November 21.

tion by Leopold Mozart. Dennis Brain was the soloist.

Yours sincerely, JUDY FITTON. 116 Woodwarde Road, Dulwich, SE22.

From Mrs Molly Beard

Make an Opera.

Sir, The use of paper bags in the 1812 Overture is rightly to be compared with the use made by other composers of everyday kitchen objects. But let us not place "tinkling tea cups" in the

nursery of Benjamin Britten's Let's

According to Britten's biographer. Humphrey Carpenter, the composer had a row of china mugs hung on a length of string, to be hit with a wood-en spoon. The sound thus produced represented dripping rain in Noye's

Yours faithfully, MOLLY BEARD, 29 Rectory Farm Road. Little Wilbraham, Cambridge. November 20.

Still flying

From Mr Robert Bierman

Sir, Daniel Britten, discussing the film version of Keep the Aspidistra Flying (Arts, November 24; see also letter, November 14), does so with an insight that I, as the film's director, could never come close to -- the knowledge of how the late George Orwell

feels about my film. "George Orwell must be turning in his grave", he writes. Sadly, he had no help from Orwell's biographer, Professor Bernard Crick, who had not even seen the film.

I can only report from George Orwell's sole beneficiary, his son, Richard Blair. After he had viewed my film he said, "Dad would have loved it".

Yours faithfully. ROBERT BIERMAN. Aspidistra Productions. Pinewood Studios. Iver Heath, Buckinghamshire. November 24.

Today's monarchy popular not divine

From Mr Donald Watts

Sir, You say that "The hand of Labour could clearly be discerned in the seat-ing plan of the [people's] banquer" (leading article, November 22). The Queen, however, has long been

assiduous in keeping "close to popular concerns" as the guest lists for her pri-vate luncheons, published in your col-umns and containing the names of many citizens unknown to the public

at large, serve to show. On the other hand, the receptions given by the Prime Minister since assuming office appear to have been largely devoted to entertainment of show-biz celebrities and sporting personalities who are scarcely a representative cross-section of our society.

If there are any lessons to be learned in "keeping in touch" perhaps it is not the Queen who needs them.

Yours faithfully, DONALD WATTS, Coastguard Cottage, Lighthouse Close, Hunstanton, Norfolk. November 23.

From Mr Alan Millard

Sir, The Reverend Dr Ian Bradley (letter, November 22) suggests we should think much more about the religious basis of monarchy" and accept the Old Testament as evidence that the monarchy is not "the creature of popular opinion, but rather a divinely insti-

tuted symbol and mystery".

Far from supporting such a view. the account given in I Samuel viii could be taken to imply that the monarchy was very much the creature of popular opinion and was instituted, in effect, by the elders of Israel. Jealous of their neighbouring states, they had abandoned their trust in God and said to Samuel, "Appoint us a king to govern us like everyone else" (New English Bible). It was only after the people refused to listen to Samuel's arguments against having a monarchy that God instructed him to "Take them at their word and appoint them

a king".

If this interpretation is accepted, might it be wiser not to think too much about the religious basis of monarchy?

Yours faithfully ALAN MILLARD. 8 Medina Court. Marine Parade West, Lee-on-Solent, Hampshire. November 22

From Mr B. W. Wellicome

Sir. You rightly remind us of Prince behind the Throne" (leading article, "Golden Duke", November 20). Seventeen years after her marriage Queen Victoria conferred the official title of Prince Consort on her husband. Surely Prince Philip could now be persuaded to accept the same honour.

Yours faithfully, BOB WELLICOME, 4 Tudor Close. Findon, Worthing, West Sussex. November 22

Proceed with care

From Mrs Margot Turnbull

Sir, More words of wisdom (letters, November 11, 13, 18, 24): my tube of hand-cream bears the instructions: "Apply sparingly before and after you use your hands."

Yours faithfully, MARGOT TURNBULL, 8 Bevere Court. Bevere. Worcester. November 24.

From Mrs Joan New

Sir, I treasure a small knife with a retractable blade carrying the warning: "Keep out of children."

Yours faithfully, 4 Harnham Road. Harnham, Salisbury, Wiltshire. November 25.

From Mr Colin Mackay

Sir, Purchased in my local supermarket, a packet of pepperoni with the useful instruction: "Do not eat pack-

Yours faithfully. COLIN MACKAY, 26b Holly Cove, Ramblewood Village Mount Laurel, NJ 08054. cnm@colsrv1.col.uk.bis.edp.com November 20.

From Mr Michael Vaisey

Sir, A firm of contractors here operates a fleet of mammoth 16-wheel trucks, inscribed on the rear bumper of each one is the instruction: "Do not push."

Yours faithfully, MICHAEL VAISEY, Fullers Hill. Linle Gransden. Sandy, Bedfordshire. November 24.

From Dr Anthony Abrahams

Sir, My nervous springer spaniel was prescribed some Valium by her vet. The label warned: "May cause drowsiness. If affected do not drive,"

Yours sincerely, ANTHONY ABRAHAMS. 76 Temple Road, Cowley, Oxford.



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE November 25: The Queen held an Investiture at Buckingham Palace

this morning.

Mrs Janet Anderson MP (Vice-Chamberlain of the Household) was received in audience by The Queen and presented an Address from the and presented an Address from the House of Commons to which Her

Majesty was graciously pleased to make reply. Squadron Leader Adam Fox-Edwards was received by The Queen.
Mr Thabo Mbeki (Deputy President of the Republic of South Africa)

was received by Her Majesty.
The Queen and The Duke of
Edinburgh this evening visited the
Finnish Festival at the Barbican Centre, London EC2, at which The President of the Republic of Finland President of the Republic of Finland and Mrs Ahtisaari were present, and were rectived by the Rt Hon the Lord Mayor (Alderman Richard Nichols) and the Manuaging Director of the Barbican Centre (Mr John Tusa). His Royal Highness, Patron, this morning presented the British Athletic Federation Awards at Bucking-

letic Federation Awards at Ducang-ham Palace.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron and Trustee, today attended Recep-tions at St James's Palace for Young People who have reached the Gold Standard in The Duke of Edin-

burgh's Award.
His Royal Highness, Parron, this afternoon chaired a meeting of the trustees of the Outward Bound Trust at Buckingham Palace.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE November 25: The Prince Edward this evening attended the Woodard Festival Concert at the Royal Albert Hall, London SW7, to celebrate the One Hundred and Fiftieth Anniver sary of the Woodard Schools.

RUCKINGHAM PALACE November 25: The Princess Royal today opened a new Special Language Centre at Dame Alice Owen's School, Dugdale Hill Lane, Potters Bar, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of shire (Mr Simon Bowes

ish School of Osteopathy, this after-noon attended the Annual Craduation Degree Conferment Ceremony and Reception at St George's Cathedral, Westminster Bridge Road, London SEI. The Princess Royal this evening presented the awards at the Silver

Lapwing Competition 1997, I Great George Street, London SWI. Her Royal Highness, Patron, the Development Trust (for the Mentally per at 2 Wilson Terrace, London SWI

CLARENCE HOUSE November 25: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother was entertained at Luncheon at the Cavalry and Guards Club by the Colonel of The Queen's Cown and Royal Irish). Major General Richard Barron, to mark the Fiftieth Anniversary of Her Majesty's appointment as Colonel-in-Chief of the 7th Queen's Own Hussars.

Dame Frances Campbell-Preston and Major William Richardson were in attendance. November 25: Queen Elizabeth The

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE RICHMOND PARK

RICHMOND PARK
November Zir Princess Alexandra
this afternoon opened Minster General Housing Association's day centre
and housing for the elderly at Simon
De Senlis Court, Robert Street,
Northampton, and was received by
Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenam of
Northamptonshire (Sir John
Lowther).

Northampronsmire (an Lowiner).

Her Royal Highness subsequently opened Irthingborough Indant School and Nursery, Scarborough Street, Irthlingborough.

Princess Alexandra later visited Allen and Caswell Limited, to mark the One Hundredth Amiversary of the Company's foundation, at Regency Works, Comwall Road, Returns.

Birthdays today

Major-General Sir John Acland, 69; Professor Margaret Boden, FBA, philosopher and psychologist, 6i; Sir Alan Dalton, former chairman, English China Clays, 74; Lord Forte, 39; Sir Brian Goswell, deputy senior partner, Healey and Baker, 62; the Earl of Gowrie, 58; Mr John Gummer, MP, 58; Professor Sir Harry Hinsley, FBA, former Master, St John's College, Cambridge, 79; the Most Rev Richard Holloway, Bishop of Edinburgh and Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church, 64: the Earl of Lovelace, 46: Mr John McVie. rock guitarist, 52; Lord Moore of Lower Marsh, 60; Sir George Quigley, chairman, Ulster Bank, 68; Mr A.A.S. Rae, former chairman, Clba-Gelgy. 72: Mr Charles Schulz, carteonist, 75: Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, 74; Mrs Barbara Switzer, trade unionist, 57: Miss Tina MP, 4l; Mr Des Walker, foot-MEP, 62.

Baron Ryder of Wensum

The life barony conferred upon Mr Richard Andrew Ryder has been gazetted by the name, style and title of Baron Ryder of Wensum. of Wensum in the County of

Baron Hattersley

The life barony conferred upon Mr Roy Sidney George Hattersley has been gazetted by the name, style and title of Baron Hattersley, of Sparkbrook in the County of West

Royal engagements The Duke of Edinburgh, as President, will present the National Playing Fields Association President's Certificates for 1997 at Buckingham Palace at 10.00; as Patron and Trustee, will attend receptions at St James's Palace for young people who have reached the Gold Standard of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, at 11.30 and 4.00; and as Honorary Member, will attend a dinner in honour of will attend a durner in nonour or Queen Margrethe II of Denmark at the United Oxford and Cam-bridge University Club at 7.40. Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother will attend a reception given by the Royal United King-dom Beneficent Association at Madbenuck Livera at 7.15.

Mariborough House at 7.15. Prince Edward will hold reception to launch the 1998 UK Commonwealth Games Appeal at The Princess Royal, as President, Royal Naval Museum, will visit

the Naval Historical Library, Storehouse Number 12, HM Nawill attend a reception and dinner on board HMY Britannia, Portsmouth Naval Base, at 6.30.
The Duke of Gloucester, as President, NABC — Chubs for Young People, will visit the Headquarters, 377 Kennington Lane, London, SEII, at noon.

Meeting

European-Atlantic Group Mr Peter Caruana, Chief Minister of Gibraltar, spoke at a meeting held by European-Atlantic Group on Monday evening at the House of Commons. Mr Giles Radice. MP, was the sponsor. Later, a dinner was held at the St Ermin's Hotel at which Lord Judd was the

RHS show

Bamboos flourish in urban jungle

BY ALAN TOOGOOD HORTICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

A TREK through a bamboo forest is an experience rarely on offer in Central London. But thanks to the ingenuity of a specialist grower a massive walk-through display has been transplanted to the Royal Horticultural Society's flower

The exhibit, featuring 150 kinds of hardy bamboo, has been brought from Kenninghall in Norfolk by P.W. Plants. It illustrates the diversity of cane colours and offers extensive information on classification, growing and propagation of this increasingly popular group of plants.

The range of species and culturars howevering above visitors'

tivars towering above visitors' heads and forming grassy tunnels includes Phyllostachys vivar "Aureocaulis" with thick yellow steps stems, Thamnocalamus tessellstems, I hamnoculatus tessets, atus, ideal for forming a screen or hedge, the rare Chusquea brevigiumis, one of the original plants introduced from South America, with yellow-green stems, and Phyllostachys violescens with violet coloured young stems. The exhibit has been awarded a gold

Maintaining the exotic theme of this show, which opened in West minster yesterday, is a gold-medal display of orchids from the Eric Young Orchid Foundation, of Trinity, Jersey. Some of the world's timest orchid hybrids have been bred by this private organisation and the display shows some of their latest achievements: fashionable calanthe hybrids forming a pink and white foun-tain, and below them a brightly coloured carpet of phragmi-pedium hybrids in red, pink,

almon and orange shades. Even the exhibit of trees, shrubs and perennials from Surnecose Nurseries, of Redruth, Cornwall, another gold medallist, has an especially exotic theme, con-centrating on "architectural"

At the Annual General Meeting of

Royal College

Practitioners

of General



Diana Whittaker of P.W. Plants who are showing 150 kinds of hardy bamboo

plants, or plants with distinctive shapes, such as purple-leaved and variegated cordylines or cabbage

cordyline "Red Star" is notable for its dark red-purple foliage and C. australis "Pink Stripe" is aptly named. They all look much too tender for cutdoors, but thrive outside in relatively mild areas of Britain such as Cornwall and conton

Several competitions are being held with this show. The best plant in the Orchid Society of Great Britain's competiton is

The Speaker The Speaker held a dinner in Speak-er's Floure vesterday evening in honour of Mr Plus Maekwa, MP.

Paphlopedilum wardii Pat", which has won the Len Page challenge cup for Michael Potter, of Hendon. The flowers, with a green and white striped hood, bronze-spotted petals and bronze

lip, are carried above handsome

The classes for conifers in the RHS ornamental plants' competition are well supported. Mrs E. Buillyant, of Warminster, Willshire, has won the Rosse cup for conifers: a Chamaecyparis niana cultivar, Chamasoparis pisifera "Filifera Aurea"

marbled foliase.

Pinus parriflora Winkworth Arboretum, of God-alming, Surrey, has won the class for a conifer shown for cones, with Pinus jeffreyî.
The following artists have be

awarded gold medals: the Nat-ional Botanical Institute, of Pretoria, South Africa (watercolours of South African flowers), and Sylvia Sumon, of Cheltenham, Sylvia Sumon, of Cheitentum, Gloucestershire (pencil drawings of conilers). The show, in the New Horticultural Hall, Greycost Street, is open today from 10am to

Service dinner

HMS Victory
Admiral Sir John Brigstocke, Second Sea Lord and Commander-in-Chief Navai Home Command, and Lady Brigstocke were the hosts at a dinner neid last night in HMS Victory.

The Minister of State for the Anned Porces and Mrs Reid, the Chairman of the Port of Lordon Authority and Lady Shaw, the Group Managing Director of British Aerospace and Mrs Weston, the French Defence Alfache and Airne Gheerbraat.

Sir Isaiah Berim, UM A memorial service for Sir Issiah Berlin, OM, will take place on Wednesday. January 14, at 11.30am at the Hampstead Synain Joan at the Plantpasso Syra-gogue, Dennington Park Road. For tickets, please apply to Mrs S. Weinberg, PO Box 17634, London Ni2 OWF. A commemoration will

be held at a later date in Oxford.

Royal Over-Seas League

An exhibition of paintings by four Kenyan artists, Gakonga J. Gakonga, Stanslaus Makelele, Pai-rick Mamils and John Ndombo, was

Forthcoming marriages

Mr B. Churchill - I Miss V.B. Essen

The engagement is announced between Bjorn, youngest son of Mr Philip T. Churchill and Mrs Glenys R. Wardle, and Victoria Elizabeth, elder daughter of the late J.W. Gordon Easson and of Mrs Ann F. Counsell, of

Dr R. Clapperton and Miss C. Edser

The engagement is announced between Richard, son of the late Mr H. Clapperton and of Mrs H. Clapperton, of Pareham, Hampshire and Caroline daughter Mr and Mrs M. Edser, Carshalton, Surrey.

Mr C. Phillips and Miss H. Ciapperton

The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of Mr and Mrs. J. Phillips, of Havant, Hampshire, and Helen, danginer of the late Mr. H. Clapperson and The Land of England of Mrs H. Clapperton, of Fareham,

Mr C. Clark Eddy and Miss S. Rece-Davies

The engagement is annou ween Christopher, elder son of Mr Paul Clark Eddy and Mrs Stokley Towles, of Massachusetts, and Sheira, younger daughter of the late Mr William Rees-Davies, QC, and of Mrs Jane Rees Davies, of London.

Mr F. Contreras

and Miss H.C. Brown The engagement is announced between Freddy, eldest son of the late Mr Ricardo Contreras and of Mrs Contreras, of Bogota, Colombia, and Hilary, daughter of Vice Admiral Sir David and Lady Brown, of Soberton, Hampshir

Mr S. Eyre and Miss M. Cabill

The engagement is announced between Simon, son of the late Mr. Michael Eyre and of Mrs Diana Eyre, of St John's Wood, London, and Maura, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Nicholas Cahill, of Ford, Buckinghamshire.

and Mim E.M. Bryent

The engagement is amounted between Surrou, younger son of Mr and Mrs Derek Gardiner, of Gnosall, Staffordshire, and Sara, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Alan Breeze, of Failand, Bristol. Mr A. Garnei

and Miss E.S. Piddington

The engagement is announce Carron and Mrs Carl Garner of St Albans, Hertfordshire, and Emms, daughter of Mr and Mrs Alan Plddington, of Ruislip,

Mr R.J.N. Hammond-Cha and Miss E.P. Lovejoy The engagement is announce

between Rupert, elder son of Mr and Mrs Alext Hammond-Chambers of Peniculk, Scotland, and Elizabeth, daughter of Dr. Thomas Lovejoy and Mrs Charlotte Lovejoy, both of

Mr A.H. Hardy and Miss K.L. Dean

The engagement is announced between Andrew, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Peter Hardy, of Highbury, London, and Katherine Louise, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Henry Dean, of Youtton, Mark Henry Dean, of Youtton, North Yorkshire. Mr C.G.E. Million

and Mim K.B. Waller

trad Mim K.B. Watter

The engagement is announced between Charles, younger son of Sir Guy and Lady Millard, of Ryfield Manoz. Southrop, Gloucestershire, and Katherine, younger daughter of Sir Harold and Lady Walker, of Turaco House, Hook Heath Avenue, Woking, Surrey.

Mr.G. Joses and Miss P. Cockburn The engagement is announced between Guy, son of Mr and Mrs Kenneth Noel Jones, of Sealand, Flintshire, and Pandora, daughter

of Mr and Mrs Alex Cockburn, of

Warwick, Bermuda. Mr A.S.B. O'Brica and Miss C.J. Stables

The engagement is announced between Ashley, elder son of Mr and Mrs Bruce O'Brien, of Killiney, Co Dublin, and Charlotte daughter of Mr and Mrs Robin Stables, of Allestree,

Mr H.J. Parkin and Miss H.V.L. Cowell

The engagement is announced between Howard, son of Dr and Mrs Jeffrey Parkin, of Northwich, Cheshire, and Harriet, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Cowell, of Borcham Street, East Sussex.

Mr E.C. Prior

and Miss C. Donagher The engagement is announced between Ewen, son of Mr and Mrs Barry Prior, of Hamilton, New Zealand, and Catherine, daughter of the late Mr Bernard Donaghey and of Mrs Maureen Donaghey, of Newry, Ireland,

Mr M. Taylor and Miss C.M.J. Heath

The engagement is announced between Matthew, younger son of Mr M. Taylor and Mrs A. Taylor, of Gaddesby, Leicestershire, and Caroline, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Alan Heath, of Thrussington,

Lieutenant Cour Walliber, RN. and Mrs C.A. Tanker The engagement is announced between Michael son of Mr and Mrs C.J. Walliker, of Chideock, Dorset, and Charlotte, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs D.B.

Mr R.A.J. Wright and Miles U. Frith Dowell

The engagement is amounced between Rupert, youngest son of Mr and Mrs E.P. Wright, of Newick, Sussex, and Helena, only daughter of Mrs E.M. Fallgren, of Huntsham, Devon, and Count Benedetti, of Rimini, Italy.

Ellis, of Barnstaple, North Devon.

Marriage Mr S.C.H. Jennings and Mrs N.V. Takkas

The marriage took place on Sat-urday, October 25, 1997, at Morden Cottage, Surrey, between Mr Clive Jennings, son of the late Mr William H. Jennings and of Mrs Margaret H. Beardshift, of Doncaster, South Yorkshire, and Mrs Nima Takkas, daughter of the late Mr Alfred H. Ewbank and of Mrs Marjorie L. Ewbank, of North Perriby, East Yorkshire The honeymoon was spent in

STELL CONTRACTOR

Lecture. The Continuing Profes

Mrs Honor Chapman, CBE, BSc, MPhill, FRICS, MRTPI, FRSA, delivered the Continuing Pro-lessional Development Foundations Annual Estates Gazette's Special Lecture entitled The Future of Cities" at the Royal Institution of Great Britain on Tuesday, Members of the Foundation's Advisory Board were present Mr Jonathan Harris, OBE, DLit (Hons), FRICS, President of the Foundation, was host at a supper held afterwards.

Order of Merit

Lord Denning Sir Norman Foster and Sir Denis Rooke to be bers of the Order of Merit.

FAX: 0171 481 9313

RENDEZVOUS

FLATSHARE

BMDS: 0171 680 6880

PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

for I than consists the Lord for every I shall the present to the God of Jacob. He will heast down the strength of the whether two threats of the rightous will be uplifted. Panks 75: 9,10 ACINOWLEDGEMENTS

BIRTES

1997, to Auxiel (no Culverwell) and Tim, BELL - On 21st November, Zisoti, wife of Nicholas

FOX-On November 21st 1997, to Caprilla and Adam, a dropher. Acre Alexandra Mary, a sister for Harry. Arabella (note Hemange) and richolas, a son, Charlie, a laother for Thomas and a laother for Thomas and a

MAZONIE - On Revember 22nd at The Fortland Hospital, to Virginia and Dong, a son, Michael, a brother for Kyle and

ROSS - On November 24th 1997, to Venatia (one Vesa) and Dunsten, a ser, Columb Atticus Alexander SURFERNATO - On Rovember 18th, to Dongles and Stephanie (nie Rudgerd, s son, Mary Esan, a brother for Robert and Benjamin. TAYLOR - On 24th November 1997 at Royal Lancaster Infirmary, to Julis (nee Halton) and Peter, a sea.

THEACTION - On Movember 25th 1997 in Sydney, Australia, to Vanda (and Edward, a daughter, Teach Minarda.

DEATES Thodi, wife or an article daughter.

1997, to Louise (née Wheatley) and William a therefore a short the Melbourne, Australia, to Comegin (née Denegine) and Lim, a son, Gregory, a hother a william and the William and Lim, a son, Gregory, a hother a william and the Willia

BAWDEN ALLEN - Peter suddenly on 18th November after a short filmes, only seven months after the death of Anna, Much loved by Linda and his many friends. Frivate consustion. Service of Thunksgiving to be held soon in Gassin, Prance.

HALL - On November 22nd, percefully, Gladys Enid (nde Samcliffe), dearly loved wife of Donald M. Rall of Sturaduster Newton and formedy of Mill Hill School. A much loved sad loving mother and grandmother. Committed private Memochal survice at St Hary's Church, Sturainster Newton at 2nd on Fiday Movember 28th, Family flowers only. Donations if desired to North Donset Mencay Society of David Elvett, Funeral Director, 13 Wyndham Street, Yeovil, Somerest RA20 1 JH. The Comment of the part of the Minima - Anddenly but peacefully at Bughtles founding Home. Nowalty, Ferry, Dundee, on Edday 21st November 1997 Dr. Jean Haning HECOG in her 89th year, formerly of Windsor Street, Dundee, Daughter of the lave Professor and Mrs P.T. Henting, a much loved sister and zent. Penend Service at Dundee, Cremerorica en Priday November 28th at 12 zent to which all friends are invited. Panelly flowers only please.

1997, peacefully, Group Captain Raiph Cassell, SAF (writed), CBE, DFC, AFC (write), CBE, DFC, AFC (write), Catter of Flora and Hangery, Ether of Flora and Hangery, Private futerni. No flowers piense but domained, if wished, to the RAF Benevolunt Fund.

source of the control of the control

the College held on November 21, 1997, Professor Denis Pereira Gray, OBE, MA, FRCGP, Hon FRSH, was appointed 18th President following an election held earlier in the year. Professor Pereira Gray succeeds Dr. Lone Newman, OBE, FRCGP, and will serve from 1997 to 2000. insulute of Sports Medicine

Dr Domhnall MacAuley delivered an address to the Institute of Sports Medicine last night at University College London Medical School. Sir David Money-Coutts presided. At a reception held afterwards Dr Michael Brindle, President of the Royal College of Radiologists, presented the Duke of Edinburgh Prize for Sports Medicine to Dr Nicola Keay and Certificates of Fellowship to Wing Commander David Jones, Dr MacAuley and Mr Brian Slawson. The Secretary of State for Health was among those present.

Latest wills

pervas - Lachima Berri (2006
Sandarson) peacesfully on fact Harmonia Harmonia 1972 is her 91st year, belowed wife of the lachim leving mether of Cocillia and Tom, and grandmother of Lan, Rohin, Antiere and James tomail Service to be held at Potney Vale Cemetery on Friday 28th November 1997 at 10.30 am. No flowers pleases, but if wished donations to the Imperial Cancer 10.00 am. No flowers pleases, but if wished donations to the Imperial Cancer 10.00 am. No flowers pleases, but if wished donations to the Imperial Cancer 10.00 am. No flowers pleases, but if wished donations to the Imperial Cancer 10.00 am. No flowers pleases, but if wished donations to the Imperial Cancer 10.00 am. No flowers pleases, but if wished donations to the Imperial Cancer 10.00 am. No flowers pleases, but if wished donations to the Imperial Cancer 10.00 am. No flowers pleases, but if wished donations to the Imperial Cancer 10.00 am. No flowers pleases, but if wished donations to the Imperial Cancer 10.00 am. No flowers pleases, but I make 10.00 am. No flowers pleases, but if wished donations to the Imperial Cancer 10.00 am. No flowers pleases, but if wished donations to the Imperial Cancer 10.00 am. No flowers pleases, but if wished donations to the Imperial Cancer 10.00 am. No flowers pleases, but if wished donations to the Imperial Cancer 10.00 am. No flowers pleases, but if wished donations to the Imperial Cancer 10.00 am. No flowers pleases, but if wished donations to the Imperial Cancer 10.00 am. No flowers pleases, but if wished donations to the Imperial Cancer 10.00 am. No flowers pleases, but if wished donations to the Imperial Cancer 10.00 am. No flowers pleases, but if wished donations to the Imperial Cancer 10.00 am. No flowers pleases, but if wished donations to the Imperial Cancer 10.00 am. No flowers pleases, but if wished donations to the Imperial Cancer 10.00 am. No flowers pleases, but if wished donations to the Imperial Cancer 10.00 am. No flowers pleases, but if wished donations to the Imperial Cancer 10.00 am. No flow

JEZIERSKA - lona (née Macleod) peacefully at Bideford, Devon, on 22nd November. Widow of Andrzef, she will be deeply missed by her very large family. Femeral at Tourisque des history.

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LETTON - Peacefully at Beaumont Ledge on Lift Revember 1997, Dorothy (Jam) in her 1037d year. Belowed chine of the less hauth house and the lets Captains Frederick and Sydney Letton MM. A much loved and mayorted famt and Geotechnic Femoual at Golden Green Countrolists, hast Chapal, on Fidny 28th Rovember at 12.15 pm, to which all friends are respectfully impled.

Margaret's Hospice Clydebunk on Sunday the 23rd November 1997. Stewart, loving husband of Sussen and "Ded" to Missy, belowed on a June 1997. Stewart in June 1997. Stewart in June 1997. Stewart on a June 1997. Stewart on a June 1997. Stewart on a June 1997. Stewart on 1997. Stewart of 1997. Stew

Donald Welton Shepherd, of Dringhouses, York, left estate valued at C2.432,176 per.

Speaker of the National Assembly of Tamamia, and Mrs Mackwa. The

Dinners

PERSONAL COLUMN

High Commissioner for Tanzania and Mrs Shareer were also press The other guests were:

Mrs King, Mr Andy Ang, Mr. and
Mrs King, Mr Michael Lord, Mr.,
and Mrt Lord, Mrs Theresa May,
Mr., and Mr Phillip May, Mr
Desmond Swayne, Mr, and Mrs
Swayna, Mr William Thompson,
Mr. Dr George Turner, Mr, Mr Paul
Harvey, Sir Donald and Lady
Limon, Mr George Miawa, Mr
Norman Richardson and Mr and
Mrs Nicolas Savan. Mrs Nicolas Bavan.

Tallow Chandlers' Company
The Lady Mayoress presented the
Tallow Chandlers' medals and
swards to BP Apprentices and Young
Researchers at a luncheon held
yesterday at Tallow Chandlers' Hall.
Mr John Kurkjian, Master, presided.
Dr Christopher Gibson-Smith,
Managing-Director of BP, also
spoke.

Anglo Netherbasis Society Dr and Mrs Albert Heijn and the Netherlands Ambessador and Mrs van Roijen were the principal guests at the annual dinner of the Anglo-Netherlands Society, held last night

LUVICL. - Josephine Many (nose Prost formariy McKamrie). She will be desply minused by her family, Jeruie, Robbie, Sonya, Anna, Robecce, Jessica and Bernard Funeral service at West Norwood Cametary Chapsi on Priday 28th Norwooder 1997 at 12 noon. No Slowers by request hot densitions any be nade to B Caristryshus Hospins, \$1-59 Lawries Park Lead, London S226 6DZ.

PORTEE - Wally Surry passed away 24th November 1997 at the Eoyal Marsden Hospital, Sutton. Will be greatly missed by family and hiemes. Fument Service to be held on Tuesday 2nd December 1997. Pamily flowers only. Demotions to Hospital, Sutton. All angulries to Prancis Chappell & Sons, 332 Crofton Road, Pensborough, Kent 1256 2177, tel: (01689) 8832277.

POTTS - Michael, died suddenly at home on Monday, 24th November 1997. Informat memoral particle, adored and apparented father of Angela and Carolina. He will be truly missed. Paneral at 12 hoom on Monday, 1st December at 5t Denys' Church, Little Compten, Morston-in-March, Church, Little Compten, Morston-in-March, Church, Morston-in-March, Gloucestershire (01608 c60633).

DESCRIPTA - Bereit Abry Clease.
On November 24th 1997, believed and leveling heatmad, faither and brother at Husprose Park Hospital. Funeral Service at Pylle at 230 per Frakey Forester 28th Family Hower only please, but departitions in his memory for Pylle Clearch PCC or The Managrove Leuhamnic Fund may be seen to W.J. Trotham, Ashdesse, Cranmers, Shepton Mallet, Somerset 34th 4QQ.

British Asstralia Society The society dinner for past and present Mennies scholars was held by the Britain-Australia. Society last night at the Sir Robert Menzies. Centre for Australian Studies, Russell

at Grocers' Hall. Dr Heijn and Sir Michael Perry were the speakers. Air Commodore the Hon Sir Peter

Technology for Science and Technology for Rodrigg Chairman of the Council of the Foundation for Science and Technology, presided at a lecture and dinner discussion held-last night at the Royal Society. Sir Richard Syloss, Professor David Watson and Professor Martin Harris were the speakers.

Gray's Ima Tax Chambers
The members of Gray's Ina Tax
Chambers held a dinner party on
Monday evening at the Ritz Hotel to
mark the appointment of Mr Justice
Park to the High Court bench. As
Andrew Park, he was in practice
since the mid-1960s, having entered
the field of revenue law at much the
same time as capital gains tex and
corporation tax. He was a pupil of
Milton Grundy, who has been his
bead of Chambers and friend ever
rince. He took silk in 1976.

Cecil M.A. Cantab.
(Petathome) Himmins, derr
hasbend of Frelyn Hangawet
Beven and of the hose Housh
Many Evans. He worked at
Cambridge University
Library, the British Museum.
GC.H.G. and the School of
Oriental and African Studies
before becoming Keeper of
Oriental Hooks and MSS. at
the Bodiesian Library, Oxford.
Service of Thumbagiving at
St. Matthews Church.
Manihomough Road, Oxford
on Monthy 1st December at
2 pm. Pannly Howers only.
Donations to the
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Churchill Herpital, cle
Roeves & Pala, 288,
Abbagion Road, Oxford OXI
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opened by the High Commissioner for Kenya yesterday at Over-Seas House, St James's.

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Rovamber 1997, Hanry Stephen, The R. Hon, Leed Wilson of Lungdide, PC, QC, beloved instrume of the inte

WHENTY - On Movember Zini 1997, peacefully in Sheffleid (formerly of Knutsfant, Casthire), linth, nuch loved mother of Judith, grandmother of Adms and Barry and mother-in-law of Inn. Fundly counstins at Attainchum followed by a Service of Thumbayking in MONT - Co. Mon

you - Issue Macma suddenly at home on 17th November 1997 aged 41. Day hasband of Carol, beloved father of Charlis and Sophia, dentily loved son of David and Disan, much loved brother of Bob and The, will be sorely missed by family and friends. Funesal at 2.15 pm Thunday 27th November at 5t Mary the Virgin, Hambleden, Bucks. Enquiries to Tomatin & Sos, 28 hasting Boad, Hesley on-Thanses, tak 01491, 572270. May his soul mer in peace. WANTED

UPTHEGROVE - Val. loved mother of Linds and Rachel died peacefully on Revember 24th 1997. Service and Crumation at Robin Hood Camatorium on Tuesday December 2nd at 12 noon. Family Howers only, if desired donations to RACUP, 2 Bath Fince, Rivington Street, London, RC2A 3R. TICKETS FOR SALE

Williams - Gestive Noel (Bill or Tiny). Functivity at home on Saturday 22nd November. Funced at H. Mariya Chuch, Borden, Hants. at 10mm Thursday 27th Hovember and afterwards at Hardmoor Golf Club, Whitshill. No flowers, but donations, pister, to Save the Children, for whom he gave so much.

beloved instant of the late Jay, Funcani Service on Thursday 27th Rosember at 2pm at Clydebank Creven torium, North Dalmotten No flowers please be Charles and State instantian, at State Instantian, at North Contin-Roses, Milebergh 1997, 2011.

STI-0671.

STREET - Harrid - died procedully at home at Chipping Campdan GL56 6H7 on 24th Rownber 1997 ribus a bast filmen, aged . 92. Grunstins; inmediate faulty only. No flowers please, betails of hemotical fervice to be monotonic faulty and wife of Lawrance and much loved mother of Roger and Seein, on Settanthy 22nd November, after a sheet Simen. Service at Iona. Femily Stowers only. Donastins if destined to Canour Research to Tomalin. For at 1991) 5728770. Emission of Parish Clauses, on Security Documbin 1st 1977 at 1 pm. No Boness, please, constraint of Emission for Carless may be sent to the Fanneral Director, La. Whiston, King Street, Emission, Chambe Walte 4078. Tel: (191656) 622444. SERVICES AMELY HISTORY Send for your own first cupy of Ancestry to Achievements, Northpate can bether, CT1 IRATE I: 01227 462615 P. 768617.

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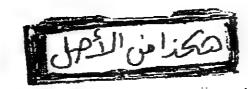
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OBITUARIES

JEREMY POTTER

Jeremy Potter, publisher, novelist, historian and businessman, illed on November 15 aged 75. He was born on April 25, 1922. .

cremy Potter's varied career took him from the New Statesman to Independent Television Publications and then London Weekend 1 cievisian.

Successively manager, mana Weekend Television. He was ing director and deputy chalrman of the New Statesman from 1951 to 1969. Working. latterly with Jock Campbell as his chairman, he ran a very tight ship on the business side of the magazine. When he first arrived, the editor was the redoubtable Kingsley Martin. but Potter really came into his. own when John Freeman took over the editorship in 1961, raising the New Statesman's circulation to an all-time high of 94,000 under Freeman's successor, Paul Johnson in

It was therefore unexpected, and to some surprising, when Potter moved to Independent Television Publications, publishers of the TV Times, as managing director in 1970. Under his direction the TV Times became the most successful mass-market magazine in British publishing history, attaining a circulation of almost four million a week in the mid-1970s, and selling more than II million copies of its annual Christmas issue. Potter was president of the Periodical Publishers Association. 1978-79.

During this period he made an important contribution to the structure and development of British broadcasting as the strategist and editor of ITV's submission to the 1974 Annan-Committee. The cogency of the arguments that he developed with John Freeman and Denis Forman succeeded in preserving the regional identity of the ITV network.

It was these finely honed skills as editor, strategist and draughtsman that led him to be reunited with John Freeman at London Weekend Television in 1979, where as



had special responsibility for overseeing and co-ordinating the company's successful franchise application for 1980. He also chaired a number of the group's subsidiary companies. His managing director, Brian Tesler, recalls that "he was a shrewd organiser, a wily corporate operator and a brilliant

On his retirement in 1988 he wrote the third and fourth volumes of The History of Independent Television in director of corporate affairs he Britain. It was typical of his-

modesty and understatement that he should have observed: "Mine is a view of ITV not from the stage nor from the auditorium, but from the wings", and of his work in the Annan submission only that "Potter was the scribe".

Ronald Jeremy Potter was educated at Clifton College and The Queen's College, Oxford, after war service as an intelligence officer in India. His enthusiasm for Clifton stayed with him throughout his life. He was head boy, and

much influenced by the thinking of his headmaster, B. Hallward. His last book, completed shortly before he died, was a biography of the school's first headmaster, John Percival.

His love of history and his search for truth and accuracy made him a leading authority on Richard III, and a staunch defender of his reputation. His obsession with the subject found him chairman of the Richard III Society for 19 years from 1971: the author of Good

King Richard? (1985) and Pre-tenders (1986); and the principal defence witness in Channel 4's The Trial of Richard III. While not all might accept the Not Guilty verdict of the television jury, Potter could certainly claim to have shifted opinion from Guilty to Not Proven in relation to the "murders in the

Potter was not only a prolific writer, the author of ten novels in addition to the historical tents, but a vasily experienced book publisher. He was chairman of Independent Television Books, 1970-79; a director and then chairman of Hutchinsons, 1978-84; and a director of Constable and Co since 1980.

Throughout his life Potter was a talented and enthusiastic games player. He first played hockey at the age of nine, and made his last tour as player/captain of a veterans tour to South Africa at the age of 74. At school he excelled at cricket, racquets, squash and lawn tennis, and much later in life turned to real tennis. His skill, guile, fitness and total commitment led to the World Amateur Real Termis Veteran Championship titles in both singles and doubles in 1986 and 1987. His passion for the game, and for Oxford, com-bined to inspire a further scholarly historical work Tennis and Oxford, published in

He always cared for the communities in which he lived. In Hampstead he campaigned for the preservation of the Heath: in Teddington for a new youth club; and in Oxford he worked tirelessly to save the Oxford Playhouse, For several vears until shortly before his death he was chairman of the Friends of Old Headington, dedicated to preserving the charms of the old village.

It was at Oxford as an Exhibitioner at Queen's that he met his wife Margaret, whom he married in 1950. A devoted and close-knit family, they had two children, Jocelyn and Jonathan, and it was a great delight to him that he lived long enough to enjoy his first grandchild.

Cyprus, Libya and London, in the course of which he won golden opinions and was identified as a "flier". In the late 1950s he served in Beirut, returning to London in 1961. In 1965 he was posted to Amman and 1968 to Nairobi. In 1971 he went to Northern Ireland as a member of the small FOO team there, and in May of the following year

This intensely political post, in a rapidly changing situation, suited Steele's talents and

1973 he returned to a senior osition connected with the Middle East in London, but he took premature retirement in 1975, frustrated by the con straints placed upon his freedom of action.

After leaving the PCO in 1975, Prank Steele joined Kleinwort Benson Limited, the merchant bank, first as a consultant on Middle East matters and then as a director in charge of the bank's not inconsiderable export financing activities. He retired in

Working at Kleinworts gave him the opportunity to use with great success in a commercial context his qualities of persistence, enthusiasm, persuasiveness and a great capacity for taking pains. He made many friends, both among his colleagues in the firm and, more widely, among their clients. He made himself a true banker in a very short

There was a streak of restlessness in Steele and some contradiction in his own tastes and nature. Formidably able and politically sophisticated, he could be impatient with opposition to his plans and wishes; and, throughout his life, he preserved a liking for remote and inhospitable places, whether they were in the north of Kenya or in the Himalayas. He was a physically imposing man, whose deliberate manner of speech concealed a quick brain. At bottom he was a romantic activist who led from the front and was impatient of bureaucratic procedures.

HELENIO HERRERA

Helenio Herrera football coach, died in Verice on November 9 aged SL He was born on April 17, 1916.

THE DEATH in Italy of Helenio Herrera ended the life but not the influence of a soccer coach whose style and salary were ahead of their time. As the Italian team fought grimly towards World Cup qualification this month. everything about its play the preparation, the style, the regimentation that put defensive caution first and counter attack second - bore Herre-Though not Italian by birth,

Herrera devised the safetyfirst credo of stilling the opposition before striking them - a style that fits the Italian character like a cloak. None of Italy's present generation of players was alive when Herrera's great days with Internazionale of Milan were at their height. The father of one of them, Cesare Maldini, was. however, and Maldini, at 64. took charge of Italy for the first time during this campaign. tem that is centred upon a defensive sweeper, a player who bolts the door in a method known as catenaccio. That system was Herrera's gift to

Helenio Herrera was born in Buenos Aires in 1916 of Spanish parents. His father, a carpenter, took the family to Casablanca when the boy was three, and there, as a child of street soccer among the poor, Herrera discovered the guile of his game. A full-back who lived off his wits rather than any great gift, he became a precocious exploiter of opportunities. The first involved a move to

Paris, where he persuaded Chib Français to take him on. He took French citizenship. did military service, and flined through coaching jobs in Paris, Charleville and Roubaix. He had by this time a French wife and four children. but he abandoned them to be gin a new phase of his life in Spain. The marriage in France had been a civil ceremony, which was not recognised by Spanish law, and he was soon married again, with a new Spanish family, and a fresh start in team management at Valladolid.

His training took wing at Atletico Madrid, which he coached to the Spanish league title in 1950 and 1951. Dedicat-



ed and dogmatic, he established pre-match rituals which required players to touch the ball and chant: "The European Cup! We shall have it! We shall! We shall!"

He created turbulance in the boardrooms, and in nightclubs. He was fired, and in quick succession passed through Malaga, then Coru-na, then Seville where he insulted a director and was banished to Portugal. However, Barcelona arranged an amnesty for him and afforded Herrera a budget to build a spectacular team of Hungarians (Kocsis, Czibor, Kubala), a Brazilian, Paraguyan, Uruguyan and, the best in

Spain, Luis Suarez.

Thus did Herrera and his Catalan paymasters drive up the transfer spiral and the managerial salary. He also drove out some good players who would not bow to his unforgiving routine. Nevertheless. Barcelona won the Spanish championship in 1959 and 1960. Then, leaving behind his second family, he married an Italian journalist, and embarked on his crowning period, cajoling Inter Mi-Ian to three Serie A triumphs. two European Cups and two World Club Cups in 1964 and

Here, again, Herrera set new benchmarks. He ordered

players into training camps retiris - at weekends, which stretched his players to fulfilment in terms of their potential, as well as medals and money. Herrera himself became football's first £100,000-

a-year employee. His following was growing beyond Italy. Among his admirers was Malcolm Allison, who, although a coach to flamboyant teams, would often quote Herrera's ploys and motivational tricks. Herrera remained ruthless, efficient, and the master of contraattack as an art form.

He and Inter flourished until Angelo Moratti, the oil baron who paid the wages at the club, was ousted as president in 1962. "Herrera was the finest of them all," commented Massimo Moratti, the son who has returned to buy back the club and is now its president Herrera left Milan for A. S.

Roma, taking a further increase in salary. There he was to rule over the darkest day of his management, ordering Juliano Taccola, a young player suspected of having a heart murmur, to train hard despite doctors' warnings; Taccola died of heart failure in 1969. The coach, Herrera, known as "the magician", survived until his own heart gave way in

FRANK STEELE

Frank Stede OBE intelligence officer and nerchant banker, died on November 20 aged 74. He was born in India on

TRANK STEELE, after a successful career as an intelligence officer, made an effective transition to merchant banking at the age of 52. He gave further evidence of his versatility in his voluntary work for, among other things, the Royal Asiatic Society (of which he became President), the Royal Society for Asian Affairs and the cause of Tibet. Frank Fenwick Steele came from a family with a tradition,

service in India. But he was educated in this country at St Peter's School, York and Emmanuel College, Cambridge, where he read mechanical engineering. It was natural, therefore, that in 1943 he was commissioned into REME, in which he served until 1947. mainly in India and South-East Asia. On leaving the Army he joined the Colonial Service and served in Uganda between 1948 and 1950.

In 1951 he joined SIS by the unusual method of placing an advertisement in the press, detailing his qualifications. Soon after joining he was posted to Basra, at the time when active planning was taking place for an invasion of Steele's contribution to its



southern Iran after the tempo rary expulsion of the Shah and the nationalisation of BPs interests. The invasion, fortunately, did not take place. But

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enhanced his reputation, in

space of time.

PROFESSOR THOMAS SCRATCHERD

Thomas Scratcherd, Professor of Physiology University of Sheffield, 1973-87, died on October 27 aged 73. He was born on January 4, 1924.

THOMAS SCRATCHERD. known to his friends and colleagues as "Tim", brought to the world of science a mind bursting with novel ideas and approaches. His main field of endeavour was the study of the pancreas and his research interests were concerned with the way in which this vital organ produced its exocrine secretion. Through a series of ingenious experiments, involving the parallel study of the isolated perfused pancreas and the gland in situ in the whole animal, he was able to show that pancreatic secretion was under both homoronal and nervous control. For this work he gained an MD with

distinction in 1964.

Educated at Richmond
School in North Yorkshire and Queen Elizabeth School in Darlington, he entered service in the RAF, first as aircrew and then, when he was found to have a heart condition, as a radar operator stationed mainly at Flamborough Head. At university, he He is survived by his wife, combined medicine with rug-Angela, a son and a daughter. by, and excelled at both: he



graduated from King's College Newcastle in 1952, collecting along the way a distinction in anatomy and the Stephen Scott Scholarship, as well as playing fly-half in the University rugby team. After a brief flirtation with

general practice, he returned to King's College as a lecturer in physiology, before eventually moving to Edinburgh in 1970 as senior lecturer in medicine and scientist in charge of the research centre at the University's Western General Hospital. In 1972 he moved to Leicester University as Professor of Physiology, but within a year he had taken up the chair at Sheffield, where he was to remain for the rest of his career.

He brought with him an infectious enthusiasm for re-

search and teaching. At Sheffield he continued his work on pancreatic function and the nervous control of the gut, which both extended and enhanced his international reputation as an eminent research scientist. He also demonstrated an impish sense of humour and an encyclopaedic knowledge of the works of Gilbert and Sullivan; he had a propensity - alarming when first encountered - for suddenly bursting into song, and in a single well-chosen line could sum up a research seminar, demolish a pompous or arrogant colleague, or express his feelings about a narticularly tedious meeting.

Tim Scratcherd took early retirement in 1987, but continued to work part-time as director of the Institute for Space Biomedicine, a joint venture between Sheffield and the Institute of Biomedical Problems at the Soviet Ministry of Health; gibes about pigs in space were either quietly dismissed or answered in song. He continued to work with his former collaborators and colleagues at Newcastle. and was active in research until a few days before he died.

He is survived by his wife, Ivy, whom he married in 1948, and by three sons and a

daughter.

ON THIS DAY



Whether a film entitled from Manger to Cross should be licensed for showing at the Liverpool Hippodrome, produced a lively discussion when the matter came before the city justices.

Saviour on the Cross. Mr C.J. Proctor said that his objection was that it was a commercial venture.

Mr W. Muirhead left that a subject associated with the Life of Christ ought to be outside a showman's job. If they allowed the picture it would afterwards become a "turn" on the music-ball biscore.

hall bioscope.

Mr James Thompson, in supporting the amendment, said that nobody could anticipate the remotest possibility of riot. They had had in the art gallery for years glorique palattings such as "He was despised and rejected of men". Hundreds of persons paid to see that picture.

Mr Henry Jones said that he spoke for one of the important sections of Nonconformists, representing 80,000 people, and they opposed these pictures being exploited for nothing but money-making

purposes. The amendment was defeated by 48 votes to 29. The committee's recommendation was then carried by 34 votes. LYCEUM THEATRE

"OLIVER TWIST"

It is a pity that the Lyceum can spare only three weeks to its version of Oliver Twist. Perhaps, when its pantomime is over, it will revive the stirring drama. For at the Lyceum they play Oliver Twist in the line old spirit, with plenty of colour and movement and heartiness, as it should be played. No half-tones or modern subtleties here, but good, straightforward, muscular playing, as emotional as it can be made, and thoroughly capable all through the cast. Fagin may very likely be a part that "plays itself", but Mr Albert Ward, recently a very aristocratic Russian nobleman, at any rate lets the part play itself to the full. Mr Henry Lonsdale, wonderfully disguised, is a fine, brutal Sikes. Miss Lilian Hallows a full-blooded Nancy, Mr Percy Baverstock a monumental Bumble, Mr Herbert Williams a racily cockney Dodger, and so through the cast. And the Oliver is Miss Mary Glynne, and that is the best thing of all: for Miss Mary Glynne brings not only the exceeding charms of appearance and dis-position which Nature gave her, but a power of assuming character and expressing emotion.







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CHARITY FEATURE On 1st December 1997 the Times Newspaper is publishing it's annual charity feature. The editorial will give our readers an insight into the various issues

It offers you an opportunity to promote the good work that you do and give our readers a contact to send their ions to a worth while cause. We are offering a 50% discounted rate to enable you to take advantage of this opportunity during the season

of good will. For further information, or to reserve your space

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ANNOUNCEMENTS MY, I jove you from Beg

PERSONAL COLUMN

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NOTICES

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a sense of the property of the party of the

SCRIPTURAL SUBJECTS ON THE CINEMATOGRAPH **DECISION OF MAGISTRATES** A special meeting of the Liverpool city justices was

held yesterday to consider a recommendation of a sub-commune of magistrates that the Bench should not linease the cinematograph film From Manger to Cross, which it was proposed to exhibit as the Liverpool Hippodrome. The Lord Mayor

A letter was read from Mr Wecister, the proprietor of the film, repudiating the suggestion that religious riots would occur and that the subject of the film was taken from the New Tessament. Mr.T. Burke read a letter from the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Liverpool saying that he had seen a series of scenes from the Life of Christ exhibited by cinematograph in Great britain, and could bear testimony to the really reverential treatment of the sacred personages of

Gospel narrative.
Mr James Sexton said that it was absurd to Mir larges Seaton said that it was absurd to think that rioting would result. The magistrates would be making themselves, ridicalous to the public if they put their ban on the film when London had already agreed to exhibit the pictures. An amendment to the committee proposal was moved and seconded that, as the magistrates had had the offer of a private view of the pictures, they should defer their decision runit they had seen them. My Thomas Shaw said that he did not think that we store use contains of reconstraints the

November 26, 1912

hall bioscope.



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THE TIMES TODAY

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 26 1997

BLUEY THOMSON/AP

NEWS

Brown's bonus for old and young

■ Gordon Brown sweetened an austere message on pay and spending yesterday with a surprise £400 million to help pensioners with winter fuel bills. And he tried to defuse a backbench revolt by promising single parents £300 million for the founding of child care clubs for a million children.

The populist announcements came in the Chancellor's first draft Budget, aimed at ending some of the secrecy surrounding Pages 1, 2, 10-13, 23, 27-30 the real thing ...

14-year-olds miss the mark

Almost half of 14-year-olds fail to make the grade in history, geography and technology, according to the first results published for every national curriculum subject. Achievement in information technology was particularly low, with only 18 per cent doing better than expected for their age Page I

Saddam's threat

The United Nations believes that Saddam Hussein may have produced enough of the deadly VX chemical weapon to kill everyone on Earth, the US Defence Secre-....Page 1 tary said ...

Spencer claim

Earl Spencer's lawyers claimed that his estranged wife, Victoria, would only "squander" the £3.75 million divorce settlement she is demanding because of her drink and drug problemsPage 3

Free sports

Jack Chariton, Steve Cram and Michael Parkinson are to help in deciding which sporting events should be protected for the nation and broadcast free of charge on television Page 4

British TV is tops

Channel 4 and the BBC shared four of the six international Emmy awards, television's equivalent of the Oscars, at a ceremony in New York ...

Southport aloom

Genteel Southport has failed to break free from Sefton council. Residents fear it will become just another grey suburb of LiverpoolPage 7

Internet romance

A widowed vicar in Oldham is to give up the cloth after 25 years and start a new life by the seaside after finding a bride on the

Lord Denning, OM

Lord Denning, the former Master of the Rolls, who will be 99 in January, has been appointed to the Order of Merit. Other new members are Sir Norman Foster and Sir Denis Rooke...... Page 9

Winnie allegation

A former member of the Mandela United Football Club said he saw Winnie Madikizela-Mandela plunge a "sharp object" twice into the tortured body of Stompie Moeketsi SeipeiPage 14

Paula's progress

A judge has allowed Paula Jones to amend her harassment action against President Clinton, effectively placing her own sexual history off limits to questioning by his Page 15

Rabies is retreating in Europe thanks to vaccine dropped by aircraft. But foxes are carrying an equally dangerous disease caused by a tapeworm....

Rables in retreat

Lenin secrets

One of Lenin's embaimers has disclosed that the institute in charge of preserving the body "for eternity" continually experimented with bodies...... Page 17

Netanyahu at bay

Plans by Binyamin Netanyahu to return more of the occupied West Bank to the Palestinians are threatening the survival of his Pages 19, 23 ...Page 8 government.....

Honeymoon alone for lawyer

Tasos Michael, a London shipping lawyer, jilted his New York society bride, a banana heiress, while she was sitting in a Rolls-Royce outside the church. The reception for 250 went ahead. Mr Michael flew alone to a luxury hotel in Tahiti where he intends to stay for the scheduled nine days of the honeymoon. He said: "I just wanted to get away."....... Page 5



A hundred thousand plastic hands planted outside Parliament House in Canberra by people opposed to the Australian Government's Aboriginal rights Bill. The "Wik amendment" makes it harder for Aboriginals to claim land title rights. Page 19

BUSINESS

Mall deak The Post Office has agreed a pay deal to increase the wages for its 160,000 mail workers by up to 4 per centPage 27

Canary Wherf: The board of the office development in London's Docklands is to recommence speculative building there for the first time since the project ran into trouble in the early 1990sPage 27 Thistie: Robert Peel, chief executive

of Thistle Hotels for 20 years, will pocket a pay-off of more than £500,000 after stepping Pages 29, 30, 32

Markets: The FTSE (00 index fell) 35.1 points to close at 4863.5. Sterling's trade-weighted index fell from 104.2 to 103.9 after a fall from \$1.6924 to \$1.6813 and from DM2-9368 to DM2-9315.... Page 30

Motor rallying: Colin McRae won the Network O RAC Raily but Tommi Makinen retained the

world championship title, beating him by one point _Page 52 Football: Newcastle United visit Barcelona in the Champions League with only a mathematical possibility of qualifying for the quarter-finals....

Rugby union: Wales have made five changes for the match against New Zealand, recalling David Young, Gareth Llewellyn, Allan Bateman, Kevin Morgan and Robert Howley Cricket Michael Atherton, who

less than three months ago was on the verge of giving up the England captaincy, is relishing facing West Indies again ...

Peter's friend: Peter Brook, the great interpreter, talks about his new staging of Beckett's Oh Les Beaux Jours - and explains why this time he is playing it straightPage 38

Rising star: Was the 25-year-old director Rupert Goold attracted to the theatre by the prospect of fame? No - "it was the best way to meet girls at school"Page 38

Boo who? Some of the audience booed the Royal Opera's new staging of Rossini's The Barber of Seville, but not Rodney Milnes - he was too busy laughing Page 39 Born-again folk: At 56 Joan Bacz

has not only produced a new album full of passion and energy, but kicked off a British tour with a terrific gig in Sussex...........Page 40

IN THE TIMES

TOMORROW

FILMS Sigourney Weaver lives again in Alien : Resurrection, cloned from a blood sample

■ BOOKS

Linda Colley looks at the slave trade; Roger Scruton on politics and popular culture

mesticity; they want more lasting vows, more time at home and more

pagan...

مكذا من رلامل

financial security Page 21 Lessons in life: Nigelia Lawson on a lesson the Duchess of York is only just starting to learn; the strange. idea of sending children to boarding school; and the joy of being an omnivore

Which report: Jason Cowley talks to

a couple who met through a coven.

They claim that witches have had

2,000 years of bad publicity, and

are they proud to call themselves

Metron power: Women are sud-

denly the more militant sex. They

don't want less marriage and do-

Cold call: Why a London council is pouring cold water on treatments for so-called rising damp .. Page 37

The turbulence in Asia might tempt some countries to back away from harsh measures, but they should realise that the markets are demanding long-postponed moves to open financial systems to scrutiny and competition, lower trade barriers and reduce government regula-- The New York Times

Legal aid reforms and the disabled: forthunting Bill; monarchy and people; BSE risks in America; need for aircraft carriers Page 23 officer and banker Page 25

Preview: First time inside a polar

bear's den: The Wildlife Special BBCl, 7.55pm). Review: Matthew Bond drowns in Joanna Lumley's Christmas cake Pages 50, 51

Brown's way

Gordon Brown's "Pre-Budget Re. port", delivered yesterday, was both more and less than a traditional autumn statement .. Page 23

Premier at bay

There is a danger of badly underes. timating Binyamin Netanyahurs chances of survival or misinterpreting the events that finally trigger his departure _____ Page 23

Precious harvest

Goral reefs are the rainforests of the seas, magical environments of multicoloured columns and delicate filigree at the centre of a complex marine chain Page 23

SIMON JENKINS

These are crazy Asian markets, imperfect and brittle. Most lack the safety valve of an open democracy to regulate them Page 22

ALAN MILBURN

The Government's ambition is to renew the NHS as a genumely national service both on grounds of fairness and efficiency. The two go hand in hand ALAN COREN

Ken remains as unappointed as a

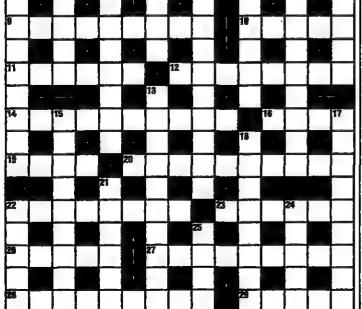
man can be. He still has no genitalia: it's no end, as it were of a disappointment.... .. Page 22 SIMON BARNES

New Zealand's haka is a sanctioned and legitimised method of starting a game one-up on the opposition. It is a giorious chunk of pure gamesmanship in the strict Potteresque understanding of the .. Page 50 term .. PETER RIDDELL

If Gordon Brown wants to be regarded as an Iron Chancellor, he should not be trying to win easy newspaper headlines as a populist Santa Claus ... The Government behaves as if the election was in six months rather than four years. Mr Brown can do better than yesterday's slogans......

Jeremy Potter, publisher and novelist; Helenio Herrera, football coach; Frank Steele, intelligence

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,647



- 1 Wood producing most oleoresin
- (5). 4 Frank has county title (9). 9 First cola cocktail in modern
- glasses (9). 10 Strains faced by those who accept criticism (5). 11 Drink made by following flip chart? (3-3).
- 12 Close-ups of celebrities (3.5). 14 Ticker-tapes read in this study? 16 Dutch production superior to The Mousetrap (4).
- maize bread (4). 20 Drunk's rowdy companion (10). 22 Proceeds to give wife a knock (8). 23 Follower of Falstaff liable to go
- 26 Turn out to see seconds in crushing defeat ... (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,646



28 Throws back-pack inside for fellows on board (9). 29 In chess opening, king is free to

One of the 15 to flatter cantain 2 Scots shrink from article found in

3 Vindication of a

serving ace (8). 4 Good quality of wood (4). 5 Coming clean fashion of a young feller in America (10).

6 As misers unusually might be with change? (6). 7 Cut of more traditional sort seen at the Oval (9).

8 Changes in way duty is declared 13 Sadly floating by Sunderland, for example (6-4).

17 Nurseryman's guarded predic-tion about blossoming hawthorn?

15 These flowers uncuri in a storm

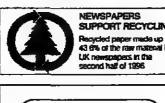
18 Split those on board here may see on the horizon (8). 21 Sitting target of two boys (6).

22 Cultivates plant (5). 24 Brief as required for quarter sessions (5). 25 Angel Clare's partner in mixed sets (4).

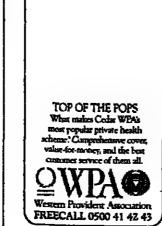
Times Two Crossword, page 52

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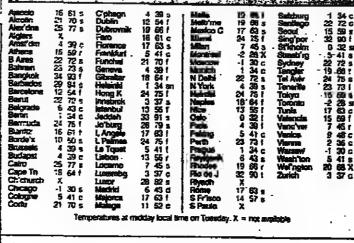


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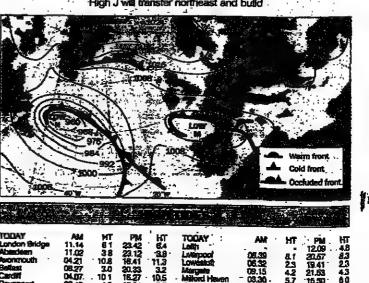
☐ E Anglie, E England: mainly cloudy and dry: Wind moderate or fresh E. Max 8C (46F) Channel Isles, SW England, S Wates: mamiy cloudy, rain at times. Wind fresh E. Max 13C (52F)

Li NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Central Highlander cloudy and misty with hill fog. Rein or drizzle. Wind moderate SE. Max 7C (45F) ☐ Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Ork-ney, Shetland: cloudy, occasional rain. Wind fresh or strong SE. Max 8C (46F) ☐ Republic of Ireland: cloudy, rain at times. Wind moderate SE. Max 11C

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INSIDE **SECTION**

Y NOVEMBER 26%

Brown's way

Premier at bay

SIMON JENKINS

WILBURN

SAMON PARNES



BUSINESS

Alasdair Murray on the costs of the El Niño visitation PAGE 31



HOMES

How a mill is being restored for the new millennium PAGE 36



SPORT

Makinen keeps McRae at bay in rally championship **PAGE 45-52**

TELEVISION and RADIO

PAGES

50, 51

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 26 1997

Brown's ACT action to woo business

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY, PAUL DURMAN AND PHILIP BASSETT

another step towards wooing big business yesterday by unveiling plans to abolish advance corporation tax and cut the rate of corporation tax. cautious welcome in the City, were worried that the change

could hit corporate cashflow. Leading tax accountants also expressed concern that the Chancellor's intention to introduce anti-avoidance tax measures could increase uncertainty over tax planning.

Mr Brown told the House of Commons vesterday that the current corporate tax system had become a "hindrance" to business and that he wanted to introduce reforms for the long term. The plans, which formed the centrepiece of his. pre-Budget report, include the abolition of ACT from 1999 and a liper cent cut in corporation tax to 30 per cent from April 1999.

Corporation tax will be payable in quarterly instalments. in future, although the new system will be phased in over four years and companies will be able to use up ensting ACT surpluses. Mr Brown added that small companies will be exempt from the new tax structure while special arrangements will be made to just to the changes.

Adair Turner, Director-General of the Confederation of British Industry, said it favoured the thrust of reform but remained concerned about the details. The figures secont today by the Government

GORDON BROWN took corporate cashflow for the initial four years."

corporate taxation at BDO Stoy Hayward, said: "It has helped to simplify the system." adding that any cashflow problems should be compensated by the cut in the rate of

A WORKING party spon-sored by Geoffrey Robinson, the Paymaster General, and chaired by Keith McCullagh, chief executive of British Biotech, will look at how finance can be improved for small and high-technology companies (Christine Buckley

The group will include Peter Williams, the executive chairman of Oxford Instruments, Hugh Stevenson, chairman of Mercury Asset Management, and Derek Higgs, chairman of Prudes-tial Portfolio Managers

The working party will look at how to help to finance businesses whose needs are smaller than the levels usually catered for by venture capital are very long term.

DEX TO 30 PET 0 was supported by market strategists who estimated that the measures would add about 2 per cent to company profits within 18 months. Mr Brown also unveiled

the details. The figures secont plans to introduce a general today by the Covernment provision against anti-avoid-suggest a negative impact on ance, a stance adopted by

many nations. The inland Revenue has previously tried William Bush, specialist in .. to clamp down on specific hac basis but found it difficult to keep up with the ingenuity of accountants.

However, accountants gave warning that anti-evoidance measures are often difficult to draft and even harder to work efficiently. Peter Wyman, head of tex at Coopers & Lybrand, said the move would create "unacceptable" uncertainty about what tax measure would be allowable.

Ahead of the statement the Chancellor met the heads of the Government's pay review bodies, which set pay for key public sector workers. Mr Brown made it clear that he had no wish to impinge on the independence of their position in making recommendations to the Government.

Union leaders saw this and his statements on pay as a clear attempt to intervene it pay setting, and warned the Chancellor against the move. Rodney Bickerstaffe, Unison general secretary, said that interest rates had already risen, and not because of wage rises for his low-paid mem-bers. Welcoming the state-ment overall, he said unions did not want boom and bust economics: "But when are the

Faci aid, page ! Matthew Parris, page 2 Anatole Kaletsky, page 10 Peter Riddell, page 13 Leading article, page 23 State of the nation, page 28 Commentary, page 29

Markets, page 30



Post haste: Sir Michael Heron, chairman of the Post Office, wanted to conclude a pay agreement as quickly as possible

Pay restraint lost on Post Office

v. increases in allow

ances of the same amount and

a lump sum payment of £55.

be backdated to October 6, is

structured towards bigger

rises for the lowest paid in

Royal Mail. Union negotiators

say it gives overall rises of about 4 per cent. Current

THE Post Office has agreed a pay deal increasing the wages for its 160,000 mail workers by per cent to its main postal employees - much higher up to 4 per cent, going against yesterday's call by Gordon than many other recent deals in the public sector. The outline deal, which the Brown, the Chancellor, for public sector pay restraint. Sir Michael Heron, chair union's governing executive council is expected to approve at a meeting this afternoon, gives rises of 3.3 per cent in

man of the Post Office, was keen to conclude a rapid pay bility of disruption to the Christmas post and conflict with new proposals on the future of the Post Office to come from the Government's review. Last Friday morning negoti-

ators from the Royal Mail and the Communication Workers' Union concluded a pay agree-

worker are £310 a week, and senior managers insist that the deal is within the Government's overall pay guidelines.

The Government will today indicate that its review of the Post Office to give it greater commercial freedom will bring forward a series of ges rainer than one larg "big bang" restructuring. In evidence to MPs on the

all-party Commons' Trade and Industry Select Committee, Ian McCartney, Minister of State for Industry, is expected to say that he will follow the first "scoping" review of the Post Office announced in May by a longer-term, more formal examination. The possibilities The Post Office is concerned

that any protracted reviews may hit investment plans and proposals for new commercial deals. In proposals put to ministers in the review the Government has identified a number of different type greater commercial freedom. They include new abilities to sell new products; to carry out joint ventures and similar moves; new financial freedoms, including being removed from the limits of the PSBR; and pricing freedoms to set its own charges.

BUSINESS **TODAY**

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On the block

London close..... \$301.65 (\$304.25)

Thorn, the rentals group, will put its US Rent-A-Center chain up for auction in an attempt to restore the £1 billion market value lost since demerging. Page 28, Commentary 29

Electrifying

National Grid shareholders are to get £770 dividend. The large return comes in spite of directors' claims a year ago that price curbs would cripple the company. Page 32

New junk rating heightens Tokyo meltdown fears

By Robert Garran in tokyo and Richard Miles

meltdown in Tokyo intensified yesterday after a leading credit-rating agency downgraded the debt of Yasuda, Japan's fourth largest trust bank, to iunk status.

Standard & Poor's said doubts about the quality of Yasuda's loan book, coupled with rising stock market volatility, a shamping economy and a lack of confidence among investors, would make it difficult for the bank to recover its health.

A similar downgrading to junk status by Moody's preceded the collapse on Monday of Yamaichi, Japan's fourth largest securities broker. Bankers fear the firm's failure under a debt mountain of Y3 trillion (£15 billion) could spark a systemic crisis among financial institutions in Tokyo. Share prices plunged in Tokyo overnight as investors reacted to the collapse of Yamaichi. The Nikkei 225

index slumped more than 5

per cent, closing 854 points

lower at 15,867. The yen fell to

FEARS of a financial its lowest level against the dollar for five years.

However, the worst fears were mitigated to an extent by signs that a committee of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party was close to agreement on using public funds to bail out troubled banks. Other banks with low credit

status include Daiwa Bank. one of the nation's largest financial institutions. IBCA, an international rating agency, ranks Daiwa as a BBB-plus, narrowly ahead of Nippon Credit Bank, Yasuda and Hokkaido Takushoku that went under earlier this month. With assets of about £50 billion, Yasuda Trust & Banking Co is the fourth biggest of Japan's seven trust banks, and the 16th largest of the top 20. Banking sources said last night that Fuji Bank might be

interested in coming to its On Wall Street, fears of a Japanese sell-off of US government bonds resurfaced.

Bank gets hint on rates rise

BY ALASDAIR MURBAY **ECONOMICS** CORRESPONDENT

THE Chancellor dropped a strong hint to the Bank of England yesterday that in-terest rates need to rise further, after raising his autumn estimates of economic growth and inflation

Gordon Brown increased his growth forecast for next year by a quarter point, to 2.75 per cent, while his prediction for the underlying rate of inflation was raised by a similar to 3 per cent. Both forecasts are above those made by the Bank of England.

the City by revising down the public sector borrowing requirement forecast marginally this year, despite a strong performance, and raising the debt prediction for 1998. Economists interpreted this as evidence he would like further rates rises

Janet Bush, page 31-

Pit closures on the horizon despite RJB's £600m deal

By Christine Buckley, industrial correspondent

RJB MINING will today announce a long-awaited £600 million deal with National Power, the country's biggest generator. However the deal is for RJB to supply much less coal and is not expected to stop pit closures being announced

National Power after a large

part of the generator's coal

needs have gone to smaller

producers. This year RJB sup-

plied about 15 million tonnes

of coal to National Power,

RJB and National Power will annouce a flexible deal for three or four years, during which the generator will take a maximum of 20 million tonnes. The price for the coal is likely to be at the higher end of 110p to 120p per gigajoule, although it will vary through-Mr Brown also surprised

out the contract. More coal is likely to go to the generator at the beginning of the contract, with supplies being phased down. The deal, which is crucial for RJB's future plans and for pit closures, will represent a substantial fall in sales to

early next year.
Richard Jeffrey, chief economist at Charterhouse, said that the onus was on the monetary policy com-mittee to take action."

after separate purchases for the Energy Group's power stations were stripped out. Next year the take could be about half of that. RJB has already signed

deal with The Energy Group for four million tonnes for five years. Attention will now focus on its dealines with PowerGen. the second-higgest generator. Despite recent hawkish statements from Ed Wallis, PowerGen's chairman, it is thought that the two sides will soon reach an agreement But in all, RJB could next

year be supplying about half of the 30 million tormes it was contracted to sell this year. This will lead to pit closures, with the loss of thousands of jobs, unless the Government

support the industry.
Yesterday an all-party
group of MPs, coal industry representatives and people from coal equipment supp began a campaign to lobby parliament to protect coal.

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Canary Wharf resumes development

By MARITN WALLER

development in London's Docklands, is to recommence speculative building there for the first time since the project ran into trouble in the early 1990s.

The decision to go ahead with a 200,000 sq ft building at Columbus Courtyard, next to premises occupied by Credit Suisse First Boston, was taken at a board meeting in New York last night. It is an important step for

Canary Wharf and for the London property market, both of which are

THE board of Canary Wharf, the office suffering from a shortage of large-scale empty office space of the sort needed by big investment banks.

The board — led by Paul

Reichmann, whose Olympia & York group originally developed Canary Wharf - has also sanctioned a fresh design for Heron Quays, south of the existing buildings. This is the next potential candidate for speculative development. Directors have also

agreed to build further retail space and a limost full and property experts say a 1,000-space car park at Canada further growth would be limited by the a 1,000-space car park at Canada Square, east of the tower.

Canary Wharf was one of the biggest property developments in the history of London. As a greenfield site in an untested location, it had to be built before tenants could be signed up. But these failed to materialise in the economic downturn of the early 1990s

However the existing space is now - second will be started.

need to pre-let any new sites to a tenant before construction is started, unless the owners are prepared to take on some of the risk by building specula-

Therefore the board has decided to ensure that there is at least one speculative building under construcand the project went into administra- . tion at any given time. Should this find a tenant before it is completed, a

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Brown's objectives for the British economy

long-term focus to reach goals THE GOVERNMENT'S CONTROL OF THE GOVERNMENT CONTROL OF THE GOVERNMENT'S CONTROL OF

economic objective is to achieve high and stable levels of growth and employment so that everyone in Britain can share in higher living stanopportunities.

In the modern global marketplace this challenging objective requires continuous increases in productivity, the breaking down of all barriers to growth and job creation, and the employability of the British

A strong economy is an essential foundation for the provision of high-quality public services. While the Government is determined to ensure that every penny spent on public services is used as effectively as possible, the overall level of provision that will be possible

□ BRITAIN'S very pooresi

people could be £5 a month better off under plans float-

ed by the Chancellor to

make personal taxation fairer for those on low

incomes. Under current

rules, each person has an

income tax allowance for

this financial year of £4,045

and a National Insurance

allowance of £3,224. Anyone

earning below £77 a week

pays no income tax, while

is only paid on the

However, they will have to pay national insurance

contributions on all earn-

paid more than £62 a week.

The Chancellor is believed

to regard this system as

unfair and a discourage-

ment to those who are

unemployed and on benefits

regime is to be extended to

panies' tax returns will in-

but who are offered work.

above £77 a week income tax

on the overall performance of The achievement of these

goals requires a long-term focus. Major improvements are needed both in Britain's markets and in its labour market. Britain's productivity is significantly behind its major competitors, and in nearly 20 per cent of households with people of working age, no one is currently in work. Economic stability is also essential. In the past, long-term development has often been the victim of short-term cycles of boom and bust which have destroyed good jobs and good businesses and disrupted public services. Low inflation and low government borrowing are both essential building blocks for long-term growth.

around three million carry

out self assessment for their

own tax affairs. Introducing

panies does not change the

basic rules for paying tax or

filing tax returns. It does

mean that companies will

have to change their inter-

nal administration systems

to deal with the new regime.

PRE-BUDGET BRIEF

The monetary framework is being legislated for under the

The challenge now is to apply a similar approach to

☐ THE Charity Finance Directors Group is to lobby the review of charity taxation for a reduction in the El billion tax burden they face. They want to simplify the system of collecting tax and want a grant back of the irrecoverable VAT that the voluntary sector incurs. policy framework.

☐ THE Government is to look at improving the UK's record of investment in reearch and development. The financing of high-technology companies and bar-

THE Government's central in future is strongly dependent rangements for monetary policy have given operational responsibility for setting interest rates to the Bank of England. This has strengthened the prospects for meeting the Government's inflation target of 2.5 per cent for RPIX inflation. Since May, market expectations of inflation have fallen by about a full percentage point, lending support to this

Bank of England Bill. This has now reached Committee stage and is expected to receive Royal Assent by spring 1998. The Bill will ensure that the Government retains clear responsibility to Parliament for vhile the Bank is accountable for their achievement. The UK's monetary policy framework is among the most transparent and accountable in the world and it means that people and business can now plan ahead with far greater assurance that the inflation target will be met.

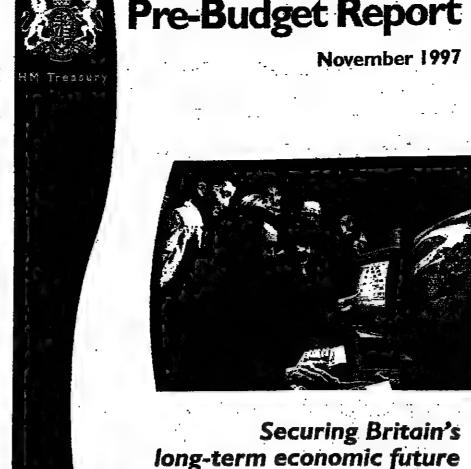
fiscal policy - to put in place arrangements to ensure that governments will always set fiscal policy in ways that promote economic stability and which are in Britain's long-term interests. The Government therefore proposes to The code would require the

Government to:

Adhere to a set of principles of fiscal policy management. ☐ Make available a wider range of information on fiscal policy than before, with the same emphasis on reporting and accountability that has been made in the monetary Ensure that the informa-

tion is produced on the basis of

high-quality accounting The July Budget set out two rules which will guide fiscal policy: The golden rule that over the economic cycle the Government will borrow only to invest and not to fund current expenditure and the



		ember ecest	July Bu forec	dget est
	1997 .	1996	1997	1996
GDP growth (%)	3.5	225-2.75	3.25	2.8
Manufacturing output growth (%)	1.75	1.5-1.75	1.5	. 0.75
Consumer expenditure growth (%)	4.5	3.5-3.75	. 4.5	4.0
Inflation (rpl-x 4th quarter %)	2.75	3.0	25	2.78
Current account	22.25bn	27.25bn ⋅	-£6bn	-£9bn
PSBR - excluding windfall tax	£12.0bn .	26.0bn	£13.3bn	25.4bn

tary and fiscal policies will

play a critical role in develop-ing the period of stability that

is necessary before the UK is

ready to join EMU, should the

Government. Parliament and

the people so decide. The

Government plans to monitor

the inflation target in the light

rule that public debt as a proportion of national income will be held over the economic cycle at a stable and prudent

The deficit reduction plan announced in July remains on course to mea these rules. The government deficit and debt significantly below the Maastricht reference values in 1997

The Government's mone-

of the practices of the European Central Bank and will ensure that the effect of the reduction plan, continue to be

the stability and growth pact. The Government is at present conducting the comprehensive spending review promised in its election manifesto. This is looking at each department's objectives and every aspect of spending, withdepartments and across traditional: departmental boundaries. It will ensure that

Government's overall objec-

consistent with the terms of

tives as effectively and effi-ciently as possible.

A recent report on competiriveness from the Department of Trade showed that many British companies lag well behind the standards of the best. Bringing the rest of British business up to worldclass standards will involve tackling a number of deepseated problems.

Government can play an important role in improving business performance by helping to remove barriers to Promoting fair competition

and efficient regulation. Fostering a culture of entrepreneurship and innovation. Improving Britain's record on research and development. ☐ Providing, in partnership with the private sector, the infrastructure and high-quali-ty public services essential to the British economy.

□ Ensuring that the tax sys-

tem promotes high-quality

The Government intends to introduce changes to the tax system in the Budget to improve the environment for gh-quality investment

There have been enormous changes in the labour market in recent years. With developments in new technology and global competition, modern workers need to be able to adapt to rapid change.

In this new environment there are new challenges both for the Government and individuals. Government has reponsibilities to: Promote a flexible and

adaptable labour market. 🗆 Encourage investment in Help people from welfare to

☐ Make work pay. Success in developing longterm policies depends in part on not being diverted by short-

The Treasury's latest economic forecast shows that after growing at close to its trend rate for much of 1995 and 1996 GDP accelerated sharply in the second half of last year, and has grown at an annualised rate of around 4 per cent over the past four quarters. This is well above its sustainable rate. Evidence suggests that there is now little or no spere capacity and signs of education and training.

The decisive actions being taken by the Government at the start of its term of office will help to deliver the economic stability that is required for lasting growth and high levels of employment. The new monetary framework which takes decisions on interest rates out of the political arena, gives people and business far greater confidence to plan ahead on the basis that the inflation target will be met. As a result the Government is

more optimistic that the economy is on course to get back on track next year. GDP growth is expected to slow to more sustainable rates from the begindemand growth slowing through the year and net trade exerting a negative influence.

There can be no complacency

about the short-term prospects. The Government is pursuing policies which in the long term will increase the rate of growth the economy can sustain without putting upward pressure on



tion to accelerate the impact of the new deal on skills shortages. But it will take time for these policies to work through fully. One of the key choices coming months is whether vage increases remain at sustainable levels so allowing interest rates to remain as low as possible and growth to continue while the Government's policies have time to begin to work - or whether wage increases accelerate, requiring interest rates to be correspondingly higher in order to hit the inflation target, with an inevit-

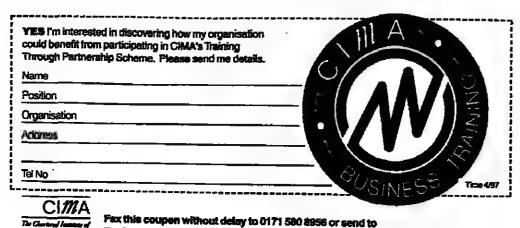
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hits EMI share price

By Raymond Snoddy

SHARES of EMI, the music and retailing group, dropped 20p to 470p after Sir Colin Southgate, chairman, gave warning that he did not expect much improvement in the flat" world music industry in the second half of the year.

Sir Colin yesterday said there was nothing wrong with the music industry apart from lack of consumer confidence in markets. EMI has great hope for its releases for the important Christmas season - The Velvet Rope by Janet Jackson, Spiceworld by the Spice Girls and Bridges to Babylon by the Rolling Stones.

The warning came as the company unveiled a 32.8 per cent fall in pre-tax profits to £75.6 million for the six months to September 30.

Commenting on reports that EMI is interested in seller, Sir Colin said he was not aware it was for sale. "If WH Smith decide to sell, obviously we will take a look

The EMI board is recommending a 6.25 per cent in-crease in the interim dividend

Warning | Thorn to sell US chain as part of strategy review

THORN, the troubled electronic rentals group, is to place its Rent-A-Center chain in the US on the auction block in an attempt to restore some of the since demerging from EMI. The company is understood

to be looking for £300 million from the business. America's largest television rental chain. as the centrepiece of a strategic review announced yesterday. Mike Metcalf, chief execu-

tive, said that the review will consider whether parts of the business may develop better outside Thorn plc". The aim is to revive its market value, which has slumped from £1.5 billion to £566 million in the last 12 months.

City analysts said that a piecemeal sale of its US division is the only option, allowing the company to divorce itself from the threat of £100 million litigation costs from lawsuits that Rent-A-Center faces in five US states. One would be the ideal solution, but no US player has the money or the inclination to snap up the whole chain. It which will be difficult." The US division was its best performer in the six months to September 30, where group pre-tex profits slid to £28.4 million (£37.8 million) after a 36 per cent drop in UK profits.

Its core Radio Rentals chain suffered an 11 per cent decline in like-for-like volumes after raising prices 6 per cent. Crazy George, the new rental chain, fared better as its number of stores grew from 63 to 80. Overall, earnings were

down a third at 21p. But the dividend, payable on February 28. is frozen at 3.7p.



Dresdner chief for London

patched one of its top executives to take control of Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, its British investment

Hansgeorg Hoffmann yesterday stood down from the German bank's board of managing directors to become executive chair-man of Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, based in

Boeing action

duction under a plan designed to cope with a parts and labour shortage that bogged down assembly lines. The production bot-Boeing was forced last month to take a \$1 billion third-quarter charge.

Anglo Irish up Anglo Irish Bank am-

nounced a 26 per cent increase in pre-tax profits on the back of a booming economy in the Republic of Ireland. Profits rose to Ir£ 30:3 million (£26.8 million) for the year to Sep-tember 30. The dividend was up 13.5 per cent to 4.2p.

Foreign firms to be let into US phone market

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN NEW YORK

THE US Federal Communications Committee (RCC) said yesterday that the American phone market would be opened to foreign companies from more than 100 countries from January 1 in an effort to deregulate and to drive down the cost of overseas calls.

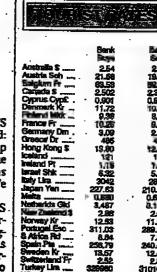
The move threatens British Telecom's expansion plans by allowing many of the world's telecoms companies into a market in which they had previously been prevented

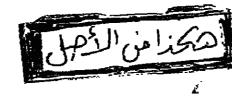
tralia as well as BT's European rivals, such as Deutsche Telekom and Telecom France, are now expected to step up their efforts to find American

that of the FCC are expected in those countries that are affected under a World Trade Organisation agreement. BT had been able to win approval for its MCI merger under

BT acknowledged that numerous foreign carriers might now be focusing on the US market. A spokesman said: The WTO efforts will open up more than 90 per cent of the global telecommunications market by 2001 or 2002. We view that as very positive."

The opening of the US. market will allow foreign carriers to operate domestic longdistance services as well as overseas services, Most foreign carriers are expected to concentrate on international calls where they could have a





EDNESDAY NOVEMBER 2

Britain's fastest growing in-dustry received an extra boost from the Chancellor of the Exchequer in the first pre-Budget statement yesterday. Yes, there is to be yet another working group, this one to examine the financing of high-tech com-

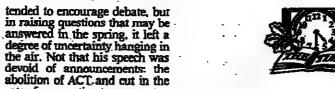
And even before it can convene its first meeting, the High-Tech Group is spawning a coterie of related working parties and steer-ing groups. The Government will. soon be in danger of running out of suitable candidates to stuff into its mushrooming array of talking

An array of high-powered investors has been assembled to query the difficulties that may beset high-tech companies in search of finance. But as Martin Taylor appears to be finding as he heads the Government's review into tax and benefits. determining the questions is the easy part, the answers are somewhat harder to find.

The Government will soon need to encourage all these working parties of worthies to move from talk to action. Perhaps it could follow the technique adopted by Archie Norman, who is now trying to put some of his Asda management techniques to work at the Conservative Party. He had the chairs removed from meeting rooms, a decision that apparently cut short debate quite dramatically.

The Chancellor said that his

Steer us to the nearest party



devoid of announcements: the abolition of ACT and cut in the rate of corporation tax amount to a sensible simplification of a system that had appeared to cause the Government itself some confusion at the time of the

Moves to provide more child-care and to hand out a little extra headline grabbers that Mr Brown's team had kept up their sleeves. The first could prove devilishly difficult to implement The second, along with the promise of an eventual 10p starting rate for income tax, seems an inefficient way of benefiting the less well off.

The Chancellor's largesse to

the elderly may have caused some carping in the City, but there was one sentence in his speech which generated rather stronger feelings. "I give notice today that the Budget will in-troduce those measures that are needed to root out tax avoidance." he said. Just what does that mean?



COMMENTARY by our City Editor

knows, is a wonderfully subjective concept. Every government must declare itself against it but there are fears that Mr Brown may take a truly tough line, blurring the distinction between evasion, which is illegal, and avoidance, which is an art form

for the accountancy profession. Businesses may now be wary of making any tax planning decisions without first being assured by the Revenue that they are on safe ground.

Please Eddie, can I have more growth

Beneath the verbiage of Gordon Brown's statement was a vital hidden message. It was directed pointedly at the Bank of England. The Chancellor's twin strategy for the economy is to hand shortterm inflation control over to Eddie George's Bank and to focus on long-term efforts to raise

the economy's sustainable rate of growth. Sounds appealing, but this twin-track approach has an Achilles' heel. All the supply side efforts he and his Brownie pack could muster will be a waste of time unless the Bank of England can be persuaded that they have

somehow changed history.
Recent Bank of England Inflation Reports have made clear that, although its monetary policy committee looks at oodles of indicators, the actual rate of growth has come to assume the greatest importance. In essence, the Bank has put rates up five times since May because the economy was growing at a rate well above any reasonable es-timate of the sustainable trend". The Bank does not exactly parade its thoughts on what the

rate might be that is sustainable without inflation accelerating. These thoughts certainly do not range above 24 per cent a year, the uneasy compromise with canny Ken Clarke. Some die-

hards prefer less than 2 per cent. Even if some other inflation signals stay green, as now, the Bank is inclined to put the monetary brakes on if the econ-omy keeps growing above trend. If the Bank sticks to such a cautious parameter, the Chancellor would never find out if he had really succeeded in boosting

Britain's growth potential.
Yesterday, he tried to square that circle by opening a debate with the Bank. Under the old rules, the economy could grow at 24 per cent next year, on its way to a hard landing of l'a per cent in 1999. But "if we combine our reforms with responsibility across the economy", growth could be half a point higher in each of the next two years and return to the implied sustainable rate of 24 per cent in 2000.

In effect, he wants the Bank to give his strategy a chance, waive pre-conceived notions on sustainable growth and unemployment rates and give more weight to

supply side indicators such as earnings growth and skill short-ages. Mr George will take some persuading. His temper will not be improved by the Treasury's new inflation forecasts, which agree with the City that the perennially cautious Bank is now too optimistic. This makes the growth strategy even more likely to derail in 1999.

Demerger could be thorn in the side

an it be only last August that Thorn EMI was demerged into its component parts? Shareholders must be wishing that Sir Colin South-part had rever decided to follow gate had never decided to follow the ICI example and split his organisation in two. For while Zeneca was a wonderful busi-ness that had been denied its sightful recognition when having rightful recognition when buried inside the giant ICI. Thorn, it is now becoming clear, was not concealing any such charms. Indeed, the two companies

apart now look so forlorn that it is hard to see why they were so much more valuable together. EMI has a wonderful catalogue, irrespective of how one rates the Spice Girls, but it is

vulnerable to the fickleness of the music business. Its venture into bookselling, via Dillons, is little more than a sideshow and while a move on Waterstones would make sense, it is not the big deal that will revitalise the company. Merchant bankers dream of turning EMI into an enter-tainment conglomerate with Rank, or Pearson, but while the share price languishes it will not be the aggressor.

Thorn's management has decided that a radical solution is required to its own lacklustre state. Lo and behold, it has hit on the idea of demerger. There is little reason to believe that this will benefit Thorn any more than it did Thorn EMI, for only followers of Hans Christian Andersen would be prepared to bet on operations such as Rent-a-Center and Crazy George's being ugly ducklings just waiting to turn into swans.

Peel-ed off

SIR Ron Brierley has succeeded in persuading Robert Peel to leave the chief executive's chair at Thistle Hotels. Fed up with the company's performance, the New Zealander determined to use his influence as holder of almost half the shares to bring about change. But the move is proving costly, with Peel likely to pocket most of the £600,000 his iwo-year contract would have generated. Performance-related pay rarely works both ways.

Anglo to form world's biggest gold producer

ANGLO AMERICAN is to: ounce, compared to the recent create the world's biggest gold gold prices of about \$304. Mr producer, while passing its Godsell wants costs below create the world's biggest gold producer, while passing its 26.1 per cent stake in Londo to

JCI if Brussels approves.

Anglo, hit by falling gold prices and high costs, is form-ing a new listed company called Anglogold, with a market value of 17 billion rand (£2.1 billion) and annual output of 5.7 million ounces.

The market welcomed the move, but it was undermined. by weak results. Headline intwere flat at 2.45 billion rand as prospecting costs soured.

Anglogold will be independent, bringing together Anglo American's diverse gold interests. Anglo American will own 40 per cent. The aim is to make the performance of the gold operations transparent. Boby Godsell, Anglogold chief elecutive, said: "We are trying to reclaim an industry South

Dresdner

chief for

London

1.11

Anglo American's produc-tion costs are high at \$280 an

\$250 an ounce in two years.

In return for Anglo's stake in Lourho and one billion rand in cash, JCI will give Anglogold its 60 per cent interest in Joel, plus its 36.8 per cent in Western Areas. JCI will also give Anglo American American Platinum.

The deal values the Lonrho holding at L6 billion rand and to release these assets, a key strategy change, will provoke much debate in South Africa. JCI yesterday took a 20 per cent stake in Southern Mining, the heavy minerals exploration company.

Anglogold will square up against Goldeo, the South African mining giant being formed by Gencor and Gold Fields. They said yesterday that Goldco will be valued at about 12 billion rand.

Textiles firm | Hurn gives finds £2.8m false profit more year

By Fraser Nelson

SHARES of Allied Textile Companies fell to an ll-year low yesterday as the nylon to carpets manufacturer gave warning of accounting regu-larities that have left £2.8 million of phantom profit.

Managers at one unnamed site were blamed for the irregularities, which the com-pany said wiped £5.9 million off its current assets. No money has been embezzled, leaving cash and asset investments at £28 million - a £4 million advance on last year.

The shares fell 10 per cent, to l3lp. The City is now expecting a profit of £16.5 million against last year's £18.4 million, which would be its worst results for four years.

The phantom profits had been drawn up by over-state-ment of debtors and unrecognised currency losses. Peter Honeysett, chairman, said the strong balance sheet would allow an increase on last year's 7.8p total dividend.

Smiths one

By Jason Nyssé

SIR ROGER HURN yesterday cast double about when he is to become the next chairman of GEC by saying that he will stay on for another year as chairman of Smiths Industries, the engineering group he has run for

GEC had hoped that Sir Roger would leave in March in order to take over from Lord Prior, who is set to step down as chairman in the

However, senior sources said that Lord Simpson, GEC's managing diector, is hoping to persude Lord Prior to postpone his retirement to allow Sir Roger to take over the heim

Sir Roger believes his task is not complete at Smiths Industries, despite the ap-pointment of Keith Butler-Wheelhouse as chief executive more than a year ago. Mr Butler-Wheelhouse is Sir Roger's chosen successor.

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Thistle chief checks out with £500,000

BY DOMINIC WALSH

ROBERT PEEL; chief executive of Thistle Hotels for 20 years, will pocket a pay-off of more than £500,000 after yes-terday's announcement that he is stepping down (See Commentary, this page) Rodney Price, non-executive

chairman and a director of Brierley Investments, which owns 46 per cent of Thistle. has become as executive chairman pending the appointment of a successor.Mr Peel, who is expected to start his own hotel company, will remain on the board until February. Analysts said Mr Peel had

paid the price for failing to meet the targets predicted at the time of its return to the market a year ago. The shares gamed '2p to 157p compared with the 170p flotation price. Brierley is keen to offload its

remaining holding. There was speculation yesterday that Mr Peel's departure might clear the way for a merger with the likes of Jarvis Hotels or a takeover bid, but Mr Price said Brierley was "not a seller

> Tempus, page 30 Jarvis leaps, page 32

We want you to succeed



STOCK MARKET

Stock Market Writer

Little joy from Budget as Tokyo fall shakes shares

Budger offered little cheer to a come to terms with the sharp overnight falls in Tokyo.

There was grudging approval of the latest reduction in corporation tax and the decision to abolish advanced corporation tax. But any benefits from these will take time to percolate through and were offset by the less than expected reduction in Government bor-

inflation target. Richard Jeffrey. Charterhouse merchant bank, said: "The speech indicated the economy is growing way too fast. The ball is back in the Bank of England's court. It has put the focus back on monetary policy

The FTSE 100 index closed above its worst of the day, losing 35.1 at 4,863.5 despite Wall Street losing an early 53point lead. Now all eyes are focused back on the Far East. Commercial Union stood out with a jump of 23p to 797p on turnover of almost two million shares, reflecting the battle for control of AGF, the French insurer. Generali of Italy and Germany's Allianz are locked in battle for control.

Allianz in the past. A revived burst of speculative buying pushed M&G Group, fund managers, 60p higher to £14.60. Once again there is talk that the Halifax may re-open bid talks in an attempt to pursuade the M&G management that this is the way forward. Halifax was up

CU has been linked with

This latest flurry of interest has been sparked by the decision of Merrill Lynch, the broker, to pay £3.1 billion for Mercury Asset Management, up 1p at £16.74. The specula-tion also spilled over into rival Perpetual, up 45p at £25.75. Allied Colloids teked 1 4p

firmer at 169p as City speculators continued to ponder the El billion offer from Hercules in the US. At least one line of 250,000 shares went through on the ticker at the 170p level. Turnover was heavy, with almost 6.5 million shares

changing hands. Johnson Matthey dropped 131 ap to 525p ahead of interim results tomorrow. These are its 13 per cent ahead at £58.1 million, with a 9 per cent



Mike Smith, of Argos, down 12120 on delivery problems

nying statement is unlikely to be cheerful. Johnson Matthey remains the biggest supplier of platinum to Japan and it is feared the recent economic upheaval may hit future sales.

Argos, where Mike Smith is chief executive, fell 1212p to 604tap after Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, the broker, turned cautious after a meeting with the company. It seems Argos is bracing itself

for a disappointing run-up to Christmas and Kleinwort may now look to downgrade its profit numbers for the full year. Delivery problems have meant that some of the bestselling lines, such as personal games, have been in short supply. Argos hit the City with a profits warning in January. Since then its price has dropped from a peak of 758p.

STILL PLEASING CITY	SPECULATURES 8,500
FTSF 360	7,600
FIRE 360	- 4,500 - 5,000
	FTSE all-share 5,000
Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr Ma	4,500

THERE is always an abundance of news and specula-tion in the banking sector to keep investors on their toes.

NatWest touched 910p before closing 4 p better at 899 p. amid mounting speculation that the securities side of its investment banking arm will be split between two buyers: Bank-ers Trust and Deutsche Morgan Grenfell.

Standard Chartered touched 704p before ending the session op lower a reported to be positive after a visit to its operations in speculators,

doubt, also liked the iden in yesterday's Tempus coldown 2½p at 66l ½p, might at Standard Chartered.

Its previous attempt in number of "white squires". These days Standard is the most profitable bank in the

merger between Barclays, down 8p at £14.27, and

Whispers circulating in the Square Mile suggest that Jarvis has recently rejected a bid approach that would have valued the company at 450p a share. The price rose op to 325p as one buyer gave 327p for 275,000 shares.

Meyer International rose 512p to 377p after two directors picked up a total of 7,500 share between them. The builders supplier is also expected to benefit from the Chancellor's decision to cut the rate of VAT on home insulation.

News that full-year profits irregularities and that net assets will be cut by almost £6 million left Allied Textiles

with a fall of 15p at 131p.

Mystery surrounded the sharp drop in the share price Q Group, which touched 61 ap before closing 181 ap lower on the day at 66 ap. The AIM-listed publisher said there was nothing to justify

£198 million offer from ACX Technologies lifted Britton Group 39p to 1361 ap, putting a price tag on Britton of 140p a

It seems unlikely that AIM Group will be able to achieve a profit for the year and that left the price down 9112p lower

Enterprise Oil ticked 8p higher to 585p in response to a report in The Times that the company had been awarded a licence in a disputed part of Thailand believed to contain significant gas reserves and possible oil reserves. GILT-EDGED: Bond

prices were marked higher ahead of the "green Budget" but failed to hold their best levels. The less than expected drop in the PSBR and the revised forecast for the inflation target were seen as in the futures pit, the De-cember series of the long gilt

ended just a tick better at £1182932 in moderate trading that saw \$8,000 contracts in shorts Treasury 7 per cent 2002 was unchanged at

£101332, while at the longer end Treasury 8 per cent 2021 finished £3 better at £1187.

NEW YORK: The Asian jitters prevailed on Wall with technology, banking, oil drilling and oil producer shares affected. By midday the Dow Jones industrial average was 8.70 points lower at 7,759.72.

Dow Jones 7750.72 (+8.20) S&P Composite 946.97 (+0.30)
Tokyo: Nikkel Average 15867.53 (-854.05)
Hong Kong: Hang Seng 10325.56 (-260.80)
Amsterdam: AEX index 671.22 (-4.24)
Sydney: A0 2454.4 (-27.7)
Frankfurt: DAX 3849.23 (+18.60)
Singapore: Straits1646A0 (-35A5)
Brussels: General

VALOR NOTE:

New York (midday):

	SKA Gen
	London
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	FTSE 100 4863.5 (-35.1)
	FTSE 250 4631.3 (-14.4)
	FTSE 350 2348.6 (-15.1)
	FTSE Eurotrack 100 2551.38 (-8.29)
1	FISE All-Share
1	FTSE Non Financials 2342-36 (-17.03)
-	FTSE Fixed Interest 131.81 (+0.18)
-	FISE Cost Sets
-	Bergains 45317
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Stagecoach	798 sp (+18b)
BTG	649n (±11n)
Next	/420 (+120)
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FALLS:	
Gearhouse Gp	355p (-19p)
Cortect	186'so (-10o)

ip 355p (-19p)
r 260p (-124p)
386°ap (-18p)
470p (-20p)
er 610p (-2412p)
300p (-12p)
333¹zp (-12p)
420p (-145p)
295p (-10p)
558p (-18¹₂p)
Prices Page 33

Peel's bed of Thistles

a market in which McCarthy

& Stone has a 78 per cent

any housebuilder enjoys any

significant barriers to entry,

But McCarthy & Stone's

inmatched experience does

give it some protection

against new competition.

Additionally, the market is

still too small to make it a

ambitious growth targets.

second biggest hotelier, and the biggest in London, were it not for the drive and passion that characterised Robert Peel's 20 years as chief executive. It is also fair to say that it would probably have lost this status if he had been allowed to carry on in the job. .

The problem was Mr Peel's strengths were also his weaknesses. Such was his obsession for detail that it was not unknown for him tick off a manager for ordering too many toothpicks. While his control of costs helped to produce some of the best margins in the industry, his iron grip gave Thistle an unwelcome reputation as a one-man band.

Mr Peel's first big mistake was buying the Thistle chain for £645 million at the top of the market in 1989. As the recession took hold, the company fell to an almost half-hearted £644

THISTLE HOTELS would not be the UK's million bid from Brierley Investments. Surprisingly, Brierley failed to get to grips with the Peel factor. Mr Peel's inability to step back from the nitty gritty meant that, even after the group's return to the market last year, the pigger picture - one of sophisticated market. ing techniques and state of the art IT systems has continued to pass him by.

Thistle's performance has disappointed, with profit forecasts missed and the shares still trading below the 170p flotation price. It has been dogged by worries over its deprecia-tion policy and Mr Peel's unwillingness to sell

off a large tail of poorer quality assets.

With the growing enthusiasm for consolidation in the hotel industry, it would be no surprise to see a predator step in to put Brierley out of its misery. But bid hopes aside this stock has few attractions.

Although the increase in

interest rates seems to have

taken some of the heat out of

demand, McCarthy & Stone

has still traded very strongly

- 20 per cent ahead - over

The shares, up 7½p to 126½p, stand on less than ten

times forecasts of this year's

the prospects, and the shares

look a good buy.

THE GRANNIES GRAVY TRAIN

That looks too cheap for

the past three months.

McCarthy & Stone

SELLING sheltered housing to the elderly once looked an impregnable growth business.

Then the recession came long to teach McCarthy & Stone that even elderly purchasers need a buoyant housing market if they are relying on the sale of their

existing property. The company has long since staged a strong revival, and was yesterday able to report an 86 per cent jump in pre-tax profits to £20.5 million

. But memories of the past problems linger on. It is easily overlooked that the iginal premise was essen-illy sound — simple deographics ensure that an creasing number of old ople will be looking for

Vational Grid ATTONAL GRID is set to demonstrate its charms again next year. It will be the only electricity business to escape unscathed as the distributors face up to competition in the household market and the generators come under scrutiny in the Government's review of power

The group has already had its tussle with the regulator and pricing controls will be unaffected for another four years. On top of the £770 million special dividend announced yesterday, shareholders can look ahead to dividend growth, after infla-

tion of 5 per cent a year. They also stand to benefit from the forthcoming flota-National Grid is likely to hold on to up to 75 per cent

ness, which once looked a

The Grid is slowing its international development because it cannot find sufficiently big opportunities. This, frankly, is a little hard to believe. Still, investors will be better off taking the Grid's surplus cash as dividends rather than paying the price for another misguided overas expansion.

The security of the Grid's revenues makes it a defensive stock in nervous markets. Although the shares, up 40 to 302p yesterday, have risen sharply this year, they re-main reasonable value.

WHAT does Quadramatic, a specialist engineering busilies with economic monetary union, which has given IT staff companies a surge in business as they help to pre-

pare corporate computers to recognise the euro. Quadra-matic will be another beneficiary, thanks to its position as one Europe's leading manufacturers of coin-handling equipment for gambling and games machines.

If this sounds too simple, Quadramatic can point to other attractions. The company's coins, instruments and mouldings divisions are all cash-generative niche businesses with margins of about 20 per cent. The shares also look cheap at 1812, having fallen from 265p. since February, mainly because of a lack of interest in small diversified engineering comlack of focus since Gartland

overly dogmatic. A possible

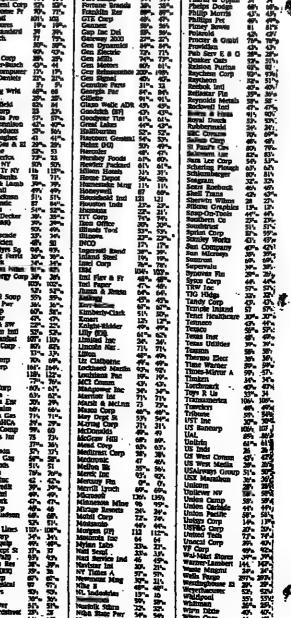
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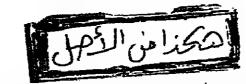
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ESTAY NOVEMBER 26 19

The sight of the president of one of Japan's once mighty stockbroking powerhouses crying was never likely to be good for investor nerves. The psychological shock of Yamaichi's humbling fall, and the other financial failures that are inevitable across Asia, is likely to reverberate around the region for some time. But, to deduce that the deep pain will spread from the crumpled face of Shohei Nozawa to Western

economies, is too gloomy. To be sure, President Clinton's weekend description of the disas-trous game of dominoes in Asia as "a few little glitches on the road" was an insensitive understatement of the problems facing Asia's finance ministers and central bankers, and probably a cavalier way to address the potential impact on the world economy. It is absolutely imperative that Japan

Japanese tears won't wash much in West the public that its considerable local banks that appear to be

savings have to be mobilised to bail out the financial sector. Without this, the Nikkei will go on falling, more banks will fail to meet their capital adequacy requirements, and America's hope that Japan will remain financially strong enough to lead the region to recovery will be dashed.

But talk of Japanese companies withdrawing money from the US Treasury bond market and European capital markets is alarmist. One theme that is emerging from the chaos in Asia is a flight to quality. Foreign-owned banks in the Far East, including Britishowned institutions that have seen their share prices battered because of their exposure to Asia, as well as .

quality institutions. have seen large flows from all over Asia into high-yielding accounts.

The more hopelessly riddled with bad debts Asian banks seem to be, the more urgent it is for Japanese investors to find safe havens for their funds. If money is to be liquidated or repatriated, US treasury bonds should be a last resort. Asian equity market holdings seem to be most vulnerable as local firms seek to raise cash, although even in these markets there are already brave souls who are bottom fishing. Japanese government bonds may seem to be a relatively safe investment compared with Japanese shares, but they are likely to become less



attractive if Japan uses significant public funds to bail out the banking system because, after a period of fiscal squeeze, the budget deficit will rise again.

The most attractive investments are in the blue chip bond markets of America and Europe and more,

not less, Asian money ought to flow in, particularly after deregulation in Japan next April allows more funds to be invested abroad. There has been speculation that the Japanese Government may even liquidate some of its holdings of US treasuries to finance its bailout of banks but this seems outlandish given the enormous foreign exchange losses that private-sector Japanese investors would incur in the process, mak-

ing bad loan problems even worse. Western bond markets should become even more of an obvious buy in the months ahead. Nobody knows how deeply the Asian implosion is going to affect the rest of the world. Suffice to say that rising worries about inflation in America, Britain and even in the slowly recovering economies of continental Europe look increas-ingly misplaced. If there is a global effect from Asia it should be a dellationary one. The only un-known is whether this will be mild or serious and that depends on the ability of politicians in the Far East to tackle their problems with aggression and without favour to

their local banking chums.
On balance. Western economic growth is likely to be dampened but surely not to the extent that are going to be hostile to Western imports because demand is likely to be weak for some time. At the same time, Asian companies are

out of trouble, helped by the recent round of competitive devaluations. Of total Asian exports, only 6.3 per cent go to North America and 4.4 per cent to Europe, according to figures provided by Gerard Lyons of DKB International. These totals are likely to rise, trade deficits in the West may deteriorate.

But the advantage of all this for inflation worriers on both sides of the Atlantic is renewed pressure on world prices. The Journal of Commerce's commodity prices index has fallen to a three-year low, reflecting lower Asian demand. Exporters will find themselves in astonishingly fierce price competi-tion. For America and Britain, agonising about whether they can engineer a soft landing from years of strong growth, a little of the chill wind sweeping across Asia may be just what is needed to take the necessary heat out of their

Economists prepare to count cost of impending El Niño visitation

Alasdair

Murray on

the economic

consequences of a weather

phenomenon

fever there was a natural phenomenon that seems predestined to heighten the pervading sense of pre-millennial tension, it is El Nino — the periodic Pacific weather system that sends normal climate patterns into reverse. El Niño — Christ Child — is the harbinger of floods, drought, famine and plague in countries as far removed as Kenya and Peru. It. wrecks the coffee crop in indonesia and the wheat harvest in South Africa. Even the Caribbean is hit hard, unseasonal storms bringing devastation to cane plantations. Science is yet to grasp fully what causes El Niño, although

its effects are now well under-

stood. Every five or six years, trade winds that normally blow from East to West across the Pacific die down causing a huge area of warm water toughly the size of Europe — to move from its normal resting blace near Indonesia across the Pacific towards South the source of the tropical honsoons that normally arrive so reliably every summer in South-East Asia. But after trekking 3,000 miles across the Pacific, the storms no longer hit the South-East Asian region, but continue eastwards to drench the normally parched lands on the West coast of South Americal Such is the size of the system that El Niño has a knock-on effect on other weather patterns, pre-venting normal rain forma-

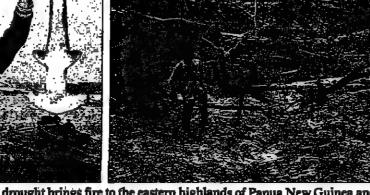
El Niño is not new Archaelogical research has demonstrated that inhabitants. of South America have been aware of its devastating impact for hundreds of years. The Mayans in ancient Peru even used human sacrifice in an attempt to appease the Gods they believed were bringing the civilisation-threatening floods and mud slides. But the weather system. does seem to have become more frequent and intensified in recent decades. Meteorolo-

tion in Southern Africa and

prompting fierce storms in the

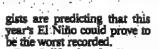








Niño effects: Clockwise from top — drought brings fire to the eastern highlands of Papua New Guinea and dries a lake in a suburb of Jakarta, Indonesia; hammerhead sharks caught off Lima, Peru, brought there by the arrival of the warm water; and a fire on Borneo island, Indonesia



In California, businesses are cashing in on El Niño angst. Tourist authorities in central California are offering half-price rooms for the winter season to ensure holidaymakers are not put off by the expected storms. A barbecue retailer has diversified into household fire tools, while hardware stores are selling "storm preparation kits", including sandbags and roof repairs. Surf shops are cashing in because high seas have number of board breakages. Even the UK, which the Met

Office believes is one of the few places where El Niño has little impact in weather terms, could suffer. Food prices have already ticked up in recent months, increasing the rate of inflation, because of a poor autumn harvest. El Niño is likely to cause some core imported food prices to rise further. A weather system deep in the Pacific could make the Bank of England's task in meeting inflation just that little bit more difficult.

developing countries heavily dependent on agriculture - El Niño is not merely an inflationary distraction but potentially devastating, socially and

The last major occurrence in 1982-83 caused an estimated £9 billion of damage, cutting Peru's GDP by around 5 per cent. Peruvian fishermen, who rely on the abundant anchovy hauf for survival, find stocks collapse because anchovies feed off the algae that only flourishes in colder water Peru has already downgraded its estimate of GDP for next year by about 2 per cent, but some economists fear the consequences could be much

n the other side of the Pacific it is drought that hits wheat crops in Australia, South Africa and Zimbahwe, while cocoa and coffee harvests are suffering in tropical regions. In Papua New Guinea, the dry season has been so severe this year that not only are there reports of

industry has been brought to a standstill because the rivers used to transport the metal have dried. The Philippines has instituted water rationing and is preparing to redirect rice stocks to prevent famine.

In Indonesia, the Government has given warning that many small coffee producers, already struggling with high interest rates caused by the country's financial crisis, could go under if sustained rains do not arrive soon to prevent the collapse of this year's harvest. Some analysts are predicting a 40 per cent fall in the Indonesian robusta coffee crop, which will hit export earnings, bringing further pressure to bear on the currency and finances.

Inevitably, El Niño wreaks havoc on commodity markets. For commodity brokers, a trainspotterly knowledge of global weather forecasts be-comes essential. Analysts are predicting a total drop of about 20 per cent in the sugar crop, while other staple commodities such as coffee and cocoa are also under threat.

gists are predicting that this However, for the countries starvation in the isolated high- But few are panicking. An- South America, the impact is analyst at ED&F Man, commodity brokers, said: "A few months ago everyone was terribly excited, with crops widely expected to fail. But although some price increases are factored into the futures market, there has not yet been a huge impact on the market."

> good coffee crop in Vietnam and East Africa has also taken the sting out of coffee prices so far, while cocoa prices have held reasonably steady thanks to good yields in West Africa. World supplies of staples such as grain and rice have also been largely unaffected because of good har-vests in America and Europe.

> The message from the commodity markets is that El Niño is not all bad news. The US mid-West and East Coast tend to enjoy better weather, cutting fuel requirements and ensuring a bumper wheat crop. East Africa can also enjoy some improved harvests because of wetter than normal weather, while in other areas, such as the eastern coast of

monitoring of the weather system has also helped to ensure that major commodity market players are unlikely to be caught short by a sudden squeeze in the market. Don Smith, economist at

HSBC, believes that in economic terms much of the hype surrounding El Niño has been overdone. He argues that during the 1982-83 El Niño the real surge in commodity prices was caused by a rise in global demand, not the weather. Mr Smith forecasts that commodity prices as a whole will remain reasonably flat because of weakness in the metal markets, although he anticipates that food commodity prices are likely to rise by about 15 per cent in sterling terms over the coming year.

For the UK at least, El Niño looks as though it will ultimately prove to be little more than an inflationary blip. But the fact that global commodity supplies look like weathering the storm will bring little solace to Peru, Indonesia and Zimbabwe, which are caught in El Niño's spiteful embrace.

lent of McDonalds - identical prod-

uct by the million, addictive and dis-

tinctly unappetising. King has

Coal industry must dig itself out of its own problems

John Battle outlines the Government's

approach to the future of British mining

From the outset, let me be plain: I have every intention of doing what I can to ensure deep-mined coal has a place in meeting our energy objectives. I am con-vinced the coal industry will continue to make a significant contribution to local communities and to the economy of the country.

But we have had to deal with the inheritance we had. The previous Tory Government decimated the coal industry. In 1979 there were 235,000 people employed in the deep-mine coal industry: now there are 10,000.

What is amazing is the calling for the Government to intervene when it was they who smashed it. Particularly amazing when compared with Michael Fallon's view in 1993 that the coal industry "should be run like a business and I wish we had handed it over to the great mining companies

... It is all about going out and finding the cheapest source of power, not about employing

eople in mines". When the last Government sold off the coal industry, they left it facing a cliff edge. They all coal's major contracts to

run out at the same time. The botched job comes to a head next year when — as the industry has always known -these contracts come to an end and the privatised coal industry is out on its own in the

market, negotiating with privatised power companies. Nevertheless, the coal industry can succeed. It is now run by the private sector, and the dominant company is RJB Mining, run by Richard Budge. There are half a dozen other smaller operators. I am pleased at their success at achieving contracts with the enerators in the face of competition from imported coal.

ost of the concern centres on the future of RJB's mines. When coal was privatised, RJB got the best mines and the best reserves. RJB has done well financially with strong profits, enabling the company to pay off debts and buy back shares. So money has been made out of these pits — £173 million in 1995 and £189 million in 1996. Yet this has not stopped Mr Budge from calling for government money to save the deepmine industry, while I see press reports that he has £50 million to invest in Australian open cast pits and wants to start more open cast pits here in the UK.

The position is that RJB has had well-publicised difficulties in securing contracts with the generators, and there is conthe strength of its market position. There are signs that RJB has secured medium-term arrangements with two of the three major generators. However, if we are to believe the press, RJB has lost market share to other suppliers, and some rundown of its capacity may be unavoidable next year.

This would be a tragedy for the industry and for the com-pany's loyal and committed workforce who stand to be the real losers here. These problems are for the company itself to resolve. Even at this late stage, RJB could establish additional business for power station coal, in Germany and Spain or by additional sales within the UK.

The ball is in RJB's court. But the Government is doing all it can to help. First, we are working in Europe to stop the German and Spanish governments from giving their coal an unfair subsidy.

recondly, I want to be pete on equal terms with other fuels for generating elec-tricity in the UK. That's why I have demanded a review of the

Thirdly, we are encouraging Stephen Littlechild, the man responsible for setting fair play in electricity, to ensure that generators cannot just close coal-powered stations without giving other companies the opportunity to take them on. This might encourage Mr Budge to secure a market for his coal by producing and selling electricity himself.

Fourthly, we are also enconraging Professor Little-child to stop electricity companies passing on to con-sumers high gas costs under their old contracts.

Fifthly, we are cutting the unjustified advantage that nuclear power stations were given by the last Government. Sixthly, we are also taking away the same advantage imported nuclear electricity from

France was given. Lastly, we are looking at ways to help coal to secure a long-term future - in which it meets its environmental challenges — by backing clean coal technology. Some £4-5 million will be spent this year.

Time and time again industry representatives tell me that they expect fairness, not fa-vours. That's exactly what the Government wants, too. We will ensure the playing field is not tilted against coal. The rest is up to the industry to ensure that deep-mined coal in Britain has a future.

The author is Minister for Industry, Energy and Science

Brass tacks

SIR Bernard Ingham, former press secretary to Baroness Thatcher, knows nothing about finance and is the first to admit it. This made him the ideal candidate to launch the Money Management Council's Quality Mark at the Bank of England ivesterday. The new kitemark will, it is optimistically claimed, encourage providers of financial services to speak clearly and truthfully.
Ingham told a crowd of council

members at the Bank that he was not there for his financial expertise but for his "notoriety as a communica-

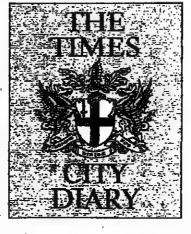


tor". You said it, Bernard. "I was just wheeled in to emphasise the importance of telling it like it is in four letter words - respectable ones that is," he said. Ingham, who has translated effortlessly from Mrs T's mouthpiece to an opinionated newspaper columnist, then went on to demonstrate just why he should not be trusted on financial matters. He listed all the blunders he had made in print. Not the least was a touching conviction that one pound equals one dollar.

●BY A quirk of fate, Carphone Warehouse has flourished despite no longer selling carphones — rather as if Dixons traded as Crystal Set Stores or IBM as Difference Engines Inc. Charles Dunstone, the founder, is at last thinking of changing the name. "It's a historical problem," he tells me. "In France and Spain we trade under the name Phonehouse." Of course Dunstone's friend Ernest Saunders can always advise on names. His old company, Guinness, becomes Diageo today - assuming no last-minute reversion to sanity by its poor, befuddled management.

Thawed out

IS THE Institute of Directors coming in from the cold? More executives self, Peter Mandelson, the Minister



than you can shake a stick at have flooded into Whitehall since the election, professing sometimes bewildering adherence to new Labour and packing task forces, working groups, and now embassies. But members of the IoD, the rather right-wing bosses' organisation, have never been included in all this rampant entryism.

This might have something to do with the intemperate public attack on Tony Blair by lofty IoD director-gen-eral Tim Melville-Ross only days before the election. But the freeze looks like thawing. At the institute's annual dinner this week Education and Employment Secretary David Blunkett offered a place on his new taskforce on skills. Better still, the IoD has booked the Prince of Darkness him-

without Portfolio, for its annual shindig at the Albert Hall next April. But the IoD is hedging its bets by also booking Archie Norman.

 SMALL world, casinos. Everywhere you turn, it's London Clubs this, London Clubs that. The Ritz Hotel is applying for a new gaming licence. London Clubs operates the hotel's casino but is off with the existing licence to new premises around the corner. So Aidan Barclay, son of reclusive Barclay twin David, is up before the Westminster gaming authorities and has pulled in a couple of gaming industry heavies to bolster his case. They are Sir Gordon Booth as chairman of Ritz Hotel Casino, his company, and Michael Seal as a director. Booth is a former chairman of London Clubs, Seal a former nonexecutive director of London Clubs.

Seal is managing director of Ellerman Investments, one of the Barclays' holding companies - the same Ellerman that, as it happens, once held a 30 per cent stake in, oh yes, London Clubs. George Carman, the distinguished QC representing the Ritz and veteran of a thousand libel trials, once numbered among his clients, er. London Clubs. Oh, and London Clubs is one of two trade objectors to the Ritz's application.

King's ransom STEPHEN KING, the American horror writer, is the literary equiva-

switched publishers in the US to Si-mon & Schuster and taken them for a reported \$16 million for his new novel, a sum so far ahead of what it is likely to earn that it makes the recent Martin Amis deal look like vanity publishing. Tim Hely Hutchinson at Hodder Headline, UK publisher of 28 King novels (Carrie preserve us!), claims to be of sterner stuff. He has just retained King in the UK and Commonwealth on a more responsible advance and royalty package, albeit for an undisclosed sum. MARTIN WALLER





Stock Exchange fear

for 'funny' Sets prices

THE Stock Exchange said yesterday that it is worried about misleading closing prices under Sets, its new electronic trading system. Many brokers are removing orders from the system before the end of trading instead of leaving them overnight. This means late deals — generally those sent through automatically as part of a "basket" of trades — may be struck at "funny" prices, since there is not enough liquidity. The Exchange is now encouraging brokers to leave orders overnight. It may also consider an earlier end to Sets trading each day.

Figures released yesterday show the average proportion of FTSE 100 bargains going through Sets is 35 per cent. By trade value, the average is 36 per cent. The Exchange said this

exceeded expectations and may be an underestimation.

Average dealing spreads, nudging 1.3 per cent during the worst of October's volatility, have since settled down confertable below 2.2

comfortably below 0.62 per cent, the pre-order book level. However, they average more than 1.75 per cent at the start of

National Grid investors to get £770m payout

INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

NATIONAL GRID shareholders are to get a £770

The large return of cash comes in spite of manage ment's claims a year ago that price curbs imposed on it would cripple the company. National Grid claims that

the payout has been triggered hy a slowdown in its international investment.It comes in spite of the company reporting a 23 per cent fall in pre-tax

Last year, when Stephen Littlechild, the industry regulator, announced the new price caps. David Jones, chief executive, said that they were "ill-founded and unnounced the new price caps last year, David Jones, chief executive of the National Grid, said they were "ill-founded and unprecedently harsh" and "would have the effect of destroying value for shareholders and impairing the efficiency of the transmission system in the longer term".

What the management said in 1996 When Stephen Littlechild, the industry regulator, an-

precedently harsh". Yesterday Stephen Box, finance director, denied that returning cash to shareholders was inconsistent with the Grid's position last year. He said: "This is about making the capital structure more efficient. It is not that we are producing very much

The special dividend of 44.7p per share will take National Grid's borrowings to about 170 per cent of its

Jarvis checks in with 23% leap in interim profit

SHARES in Jarvis Hotels, the midmarket hotel company floated at 175p in June 1996. gained 8p to 157p yesterday on the back of a strong set of interim results and positive noises on prospects for future growth.

In the 28 weeks to October 11, the company improved pre-tax profits 23.4 per cent to £17.1 million on turnover 18.4 per cent up at £73.1 million. Operating profit rose almost 28 per cent to E20.6 million.

looked at numerous acquisition opportunities, the only expansion came in the form of new rooms added to existing hotels. John Jarvis. chairman and chief executive, said that while the company was in a position to spend up to £80 million without recourse to shareholders, he refused to

He shrugged off City sug-gestions that he should consider a bid for Thistle Hotels, whose chief executive, Robert Peel, resigned yesterday, but he admitted that industry consolidation was inevitable.

The group is stepping up the pace of capital expenditure. In the first half it more than doubled spend to £10 million and has set a budget of £33 million over two

Average occupancy in the half-year advanced from 70.5 per cent to 72.3 per cent, while the achieved room rate rose by almost 9 per cent to £46.09. As a result, the room yield rose strongly from £29.87 to £33.35.

Earnings per share grew 22.8 per cent to 9.7p, and an interim dividend of 1.5p will be paid on January lo - a rise of 12.8 per cent on a pro

shareholder funds by the end of the year. This compares with a ratio of 70 per cent at the end of last year.

The payout will also be fuelled by £200 million that the company expects to realise from the part-flotation of Energis, the telecoms operation. Shares in Energis will begin trading next month with a value of between £815 mil-lion and £962 million. National Grid is to retain up to 75 per cent of Energis.

In the half year to September 30. Energis increased its turnover 61 per cent to £69.2

The company said that it would continue to look for investment potential overseas, but that major opportunities were unlikely to present themselves for the next year or so. It has made substantial acquisitions overseas, including taking large stakes in Argentina. National Grid said that it

was tackling the new price controls, which cut pre-tax profits in the six months to September 30 to £226 million, from £292 million in the same period for 1996. David Jefferies, chairman, said: "Determined cost-cutting measures have been implemented to improve efficiency and to help offset the impact on jobs."

With the announcement of the price controls National Grid said it would have to cut jobs by 750 over four years. Yesterday it said it would have reached half that figure by the end of the year.

The interim dividend, pay-able on February 16, was lifted 8.5 per cent to 4.83p. Shareholders receiving the special dividend will be able to invest a proportion into a convertible bond issue, expected to be between £300 million and



Safe as houses: John McCarthy is confident of making "significant progress" this year

McCarthy & Stone powers past City's predictions

McCARTHY & STONE, the sheltered housing company, stunned the City by reporting results that outstripped brokers' forecasts not just for the year just ended, but for 1998 and 1999 as well.

Pre-tax profits climbed from

Ell million to £20.5 million on turnover 45 per cent ahead at ESS.3 million. The consensus of City analysts' estimates for the year to August was only £15.5 million, and they were expect-ing only £18.5 million this year. Helped by the strengthened housing market, McCarthy & Stone made good progress on Unit sales improved 34 per cent to 1,218, and the average selling price increased 10 per cent to £70,000. The company was able to cut back on sales incentives and discounts, with part exchanges falling from 425 to 354.

Although land prices have increased, McCarthy & Stone said land costs as a proportion. selling cost remained steady. Its gross profit margin improved from 35 per cent to 39 per cent. The company even had success in planning appeals, persuading planning authorities that its develop

Matthew Thorne, finance director, said the company had seen "a modest slowdown" over the past three months, but completions, resgreations and visitor levels are still running about 20 per cent ahead of last year. John Mc-Carthy, chairman, said: "The board is extremely confident of its ability to demonstrate significant progress in the current financial year."

McCarthy & Stone plans to pay a final dividend of 2.34p on January 30, which will lift

Colonial plans UK expansion

By MARIANNE CURPHEY NEUKANCE CORRESPONDENT

COLONIAL, the Australian life company which demutualised last year, is interested in acquiring life insurance and asset management companies to expand its distribution net-

work in the UK. The company has £4 billion worth of assets under management in the UK and confirmed yesterday that it would like to double its exposure by the turn of the century. Jaqui Bamford, head of legal and corporate affairs at Colonial, said: "We want to expand in the UK and become a top 20 provider of

financial services in the UK." Australia Mutual Provident (AMP), a fellow Australian life insurer, is in the process of demutualising and analysts expect shares in Colonial to rise as institutional investors increase their weightings in

Colonial said that its first dividend since demutualisation would exceed its pre-listing forecast and would be 7 cents per share. All shareholders registered at December 12 will be eligible. Colonial said shareholders will be able to exercise the end of next month.

Severn Trent disappoints over payout

BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

SEVERN TRENT disappointed the City yesterday with the absence of a shareholder payout and with a lower than expected interim dividend.

The water company's shares fell 25½ p to 934¼ p as it set out plans for a 10 per cent Increase in its interim dividend to 11.5p on the back of a 1.3 per cent drop in pre-tax profits for the half year to September 30. Analysts had expected a buyback or special dividend and an interim payment of up to 12.2p.

Severn Trent also appeared to quash future hopes of a payback. Vic Cocker, chief executive, said: "There is a need for prudence in an uncertain regulatory environment." Alan Costin, finance director, said the balance sheet did not have a lot of headroom after the £309 milllon windfall tax.

The company's unregulated ousinesses saw profits before interest and tax rise 10.6 per cent to £18.8 million. Overall pre-tax profits were £191.3 million against £197 million. The interior dividend

is payable on April 6.

Inquiry into Trustor

the day, settling after the first hour.

BO SKARINDER, the Swedish state prosecutor, is travelling to London on a fact-finding mission regarding the alleged misappropriation of funds at Trustor, the investment company. Mr Skarinder hopes to question Lindsay Smallbone, the former president of Trustor, today, and Lord Moyne, the main shareholder of Trustor, tomorrow or Friday. Mr Skarinder noted that he had no authority to take firm action in the UK and that any request for legal proceedings would have to wait until he returned to Sweden.

Triplex Lloyd jumps

TRIPLEX LLOYD, the engineering group that lost its battle to take over William Cook earlier this year, announced a 22 per cent rise in interim profits yesterday. The group reported pre-tax profits of £7.6 million, on a turnover of £115.2 million (£98.4 million). Colin Cooke, chairman, said order books were buoyant and aerospace and gas turbine components have good medium-term prospects. The company could spend up to £30 million on acquisitions. The interim dividend

Galliford acquires rival

GALLIPORD, the restructured housebuilding and construction group, has bought Midas Homes, its southwest rival, in a £4.6 million deal that aims to strengthen the company's housing division. The company will fund the deal by raising £2.5 million through the three-for-20 placing of 13.3 million shares at 19p each, and by giving 7.9 million shares worth £1.5 million to the vendor. It will also issue loan notes. The offer price is subject to Midas achieving pre-tax profits of more than £1.6 million in the 17 months to June 1998.

Quadramatic advances

QUADRAMATIC, the company that hopes to make a fortune from manufacturing coin-handling equipment for the single European currency, yesterday reported an 8 per cent rise in pre-tax profits for the year ended October 4, from £13 million to £14 million. The group said it successfully launched its coin-handling operations in Las Vegas during the year. Turnover was £73 million, up 16 per cent from £62 million. Earnings per share were 19.5p, up 5 per cent from 18.6p. A final dividend of 5.9p, up from 5.5p, will be paid on February 12.

Barkers gets £5.5m refit

HOUSE OF FRASER is to invest £5.5 million on a renovation of Barkers of Kensington, London. The store will close from January 3 with the exception of the cosmetics area. The fully refurbished store will re-open in April 1998, with 100,000 so ft of selling space. The refit will be based on the design for House of Fraser's Nottingham store and will begin on November 29. John Coleman, chief executive, said: "We expect the new Barkers to create both a significant uplift in sales and new employment opportunities for London."

Courtaulds China deal

COURTAULDS has strengthened its coatings business in China with the start-up of two powder coatings plants. The plants will have enough capacity to provide potential sales of some £25 million, and are an extension of a 50/50 joint venture powder business with Chang Cheng Chemicals. The investment reflects the expanding powder coatings market in China, estimated to be growing by 15 per cent a year, which is driven by demand from foreign-invested manufacturing industries and domestic appliance manufacturers.

AIM Group shares dive

SHARES in AIM Group dived from 384p to 285p after the company said it would be "difficult" to achieve a profit in the current financial year because of an exceptional write-off over interior contracts for Saab, which may halt production of regional aircraft, and the absence of profit from its Seattle subsidiary. Doubts over future Saab work will result in a £3.65 million charge. However, AIM Group said that it was reasonable to anticipate a return to normal profitability in the next financial year.

Gucci buys Severin

GUCCI GROUP, the luxury goods maker, has bought the Severin Montres group of companies, its watch licensee for 23 years, in a cash transaction valuing the business at about \$150 million (£89 million). Gucci is also to repurchase up to three million of the company's outstanding shares. Severin Montres, a major manufacturer and distributor, is based in Lengnau. Swizzerland, and in 1996 earned \$188.2 million and had operating profits of \$42.8 million, after royalties paid to Guero of \$24.3 million, agreed to Guero of \$24.3 million, agreed to Guero of \$24.3 million. to Gueci of \$24.3 million, according to Gueci.

Consortium takes over Tecno

By Jason Nissé

CHARLES DUNSTONE the founder of Carphone Warehouse, yesterday vowed to revitalise Tecno after leading a consortium, including Julian Richer and Luke Johnson, in a £4 million purchase of the camera chain from Era Group, the troubled retailer.

The trio will be equal part-ners along with David Ross, deputy managing director of Carphone Warehouse, in the deal, which substantially cuts Era's £11 million of debts. Era can now concentrate on turning around the fortunes

of Beattie's, its model store chain, which has been hit by falling profitability. Mr Dunstone said that the appearance of new digital

cameras gave a great opportu-



Charles Dunstone's deal pays Era £4 million for Tecno

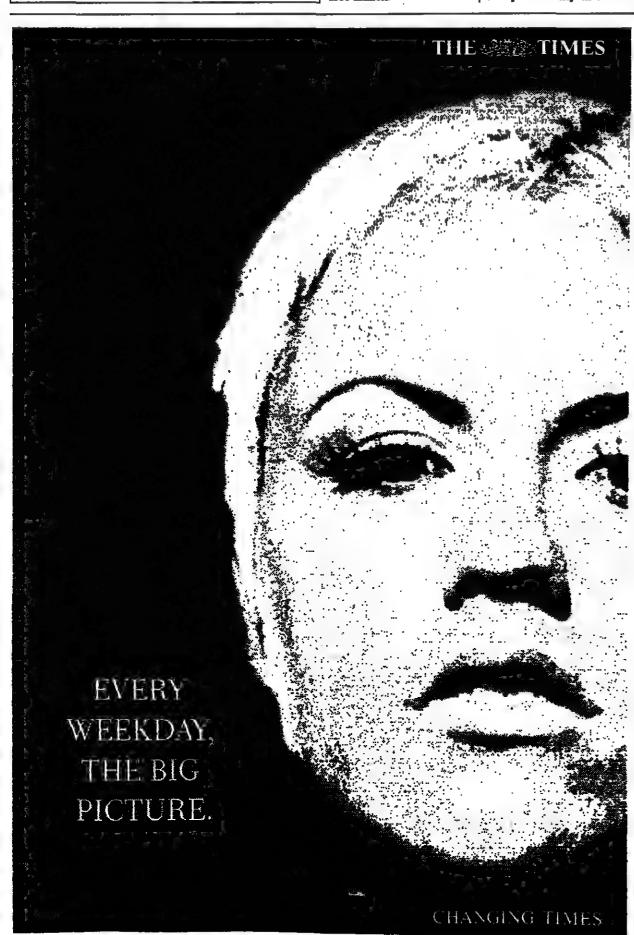
hand cameras through the Fox Talbot chain, which is nity for Tecno, introducing the skills that have made Carphone Warehouse and Richer Sounds a success.

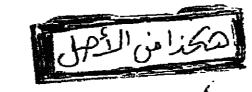
part of the business. The Carphone Warehouse formula, offering advice on The new consortium plans to start a part exchange service at Tecno, selling second-

rapid expansion of the chain. By the end of this year Mr Dunstone aims to have 130 stores in the UK, as well as operations in France and Spain. There are no plans to float the business as yet.

"I'm not sure we would know how to operate in the public arena, said Mr Dunstone, who has been advised by Ernest Saunders, the former Guinness chief.

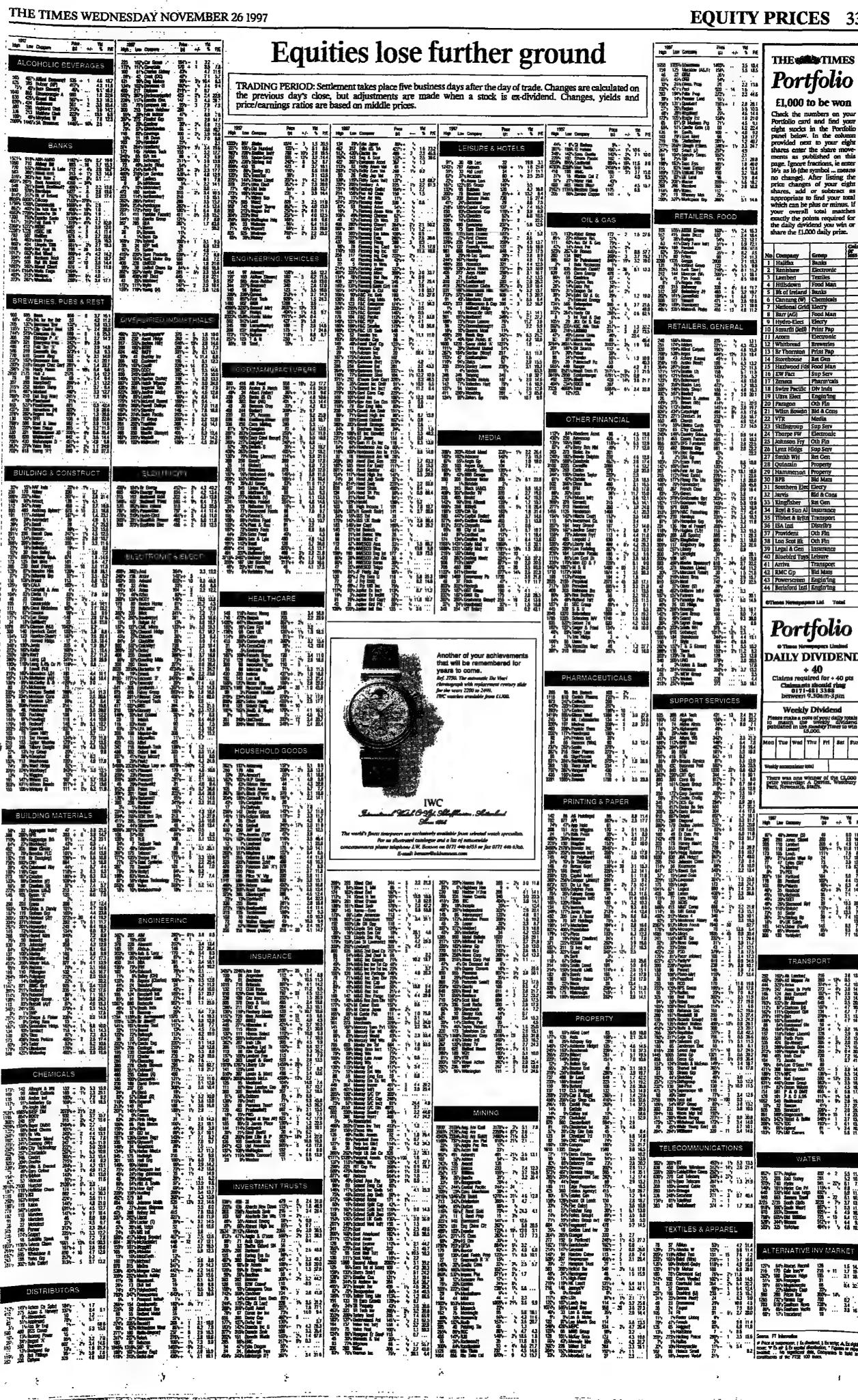
Era has been saved from possible collapse by a manigement team backed by Postern, the corporate recovery experts headed by Archie Coulson. Mr Coulson was surprised yesterday at the announcement by Mr Dun-stone's group. "I thought we were still at the position of arm wrestling over the final





tock Exchange for funny' Sets price

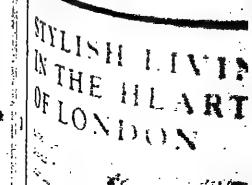
alliford acquires rivi



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The myth of rising damp There's a new home

Rachel Kelly and Tom

Rowland on a steamy debate

t is a frequent worry for homeowners, but is rising damp so common? A London council thinks not. Its housing officials are so confident that rising damp is more likely to be condensation or damp penetration from outside that they are offering a £50 reward to any council employee who can

Mike Parrett is manager of Lewisham Borough Council's housing disrepair scheme, and a recent recipient of an award from the Institute of Maintenance and Building Management for his work on damp problems. It is not that rising damp does not exist, he says; it does, but rarely. He has handled hundreds of supposed cases of rising damp over the past decade, but has yet to install a single chemical damp course. He says: "Millions of pounds are being thrown to the wall. Chemical damp-proofing does not work. Every time my staff looked at a case of so-called rising damp. they found the problem was condensation caused by poor heating and ventilation, or penetrating damp from raised ground levels or leaking pipes.

"I have never found moisture being drawn up from foundations. The point of the reward is to convince tenants that rising damp is a myth. Every wrong diagnosis could cost us £5,000 a house, which could provide central heating and ventilation for two properties: improvements that we know will cure dampness."

The council's claims have sparked a debate within the building industry about chemical damp-proofing. Treating rising damp is estimated to cost local authorities and owner-occupiers between £100 million and £200 million a year. Dr Chris Coggins of the Bri-

tish Wood Preserving and Damp-Proofing Association represents about 220 rising damp firms. He says: "Rising damp does exist and can be



Homeowners imagine the worst when they suspect damp. But the problem occurs far less often than is generally thought

BE SURE OF THE DIAGNOSIS

WHEN rising damp is misdiagnosed, it is usually because of misuse of electrical moisture meters. Such meters are reliable for use with timber, but building materials such as brickwork often contain matter that will give very high moisture readings, even when no dampness is present.

Dampness levels in masonry should be analysed by a method using calcium carbide, not by electrical moisture meters. This method of testing can be carried out on-site.

treated. The trouble is that frequently it is not specialists who treat the problem."

Rising damp is often misdiagnosed, say others in the building trade, who say the 'remedies" may be costly. intrusive and useless.

According to the Govern-ment-funded Building Research Establishment (BRE), rising damp makes up only about 10 per cent of damp it investigates in buildings. The BRE became so worried about incorrect diagnoses that it issued a guide last year pointing out how costly, and intrusive to the fabric of houses, were the remedies, and how vital it is to rule out condensation first. Unlike rising dam<u>b</u>,

which requires the drilling of holes along entire walls so that a liquid waterproofing can be pumped in, condensation can be cured by opening a window. It may also be wise to insert an air brick or two.

Part of the reason for the concern over rising damp is that homeowners are told about its perils by house surveyors. Research by the building construction department at the University of the South Bank suggests that 75 per cent of surveyors expect to find the condition in period homes

treatments. The standard "damp test" of surveyors is to prod a wall with an electronic conductance meter. The more damp be-

ween the two terminals, the higher the reading will be. But the study revealed that 74 per cent of the surveyors ques-tioned did not know these meters are calibrated for timber, not masonry. Meters tend to over-react when prodded against a brick wall and show higher levels of moisture than are present. The manufacturers of the meters recommend that further tests are carried out to confirm the diagnosis of rising damp, but few surveyors bother. Instead, terrified of the prospect of being sued for negligence, they write survey reports that rec-

Unfortunately, most owners and prospective buyers faced with this advice phone a firm for a free damp survey, and fail to realise that the "specialists" fielded to carry out this free service are sales staff often paid on commission for selling pumped chemical anti-damp

ommend that the damp be

nvestigated by a specialist.

Better safe than sorry, you might think. But it is not clear whether these chemical dampproofing treatments prevent from rising in walls.

by the stream ... The Prince of Wales is Mark Cropper

behind a new scheme to turn a derelict cotton mill into nine houses and 30 flats. They will feature dramatic cast-iron columns and large sash windows, genuinely large spaces and spectacular river side views. Work has begun on Stan-

صكذا من رلامل

ley Mills, a sprawling early 19th-century mill complex on the banks of the Tay near Perth. It is the first project to be undertaken by the Phoenix Trust, a conservationgroup founded with the support of the Prince earlier this year. The trust's aim is to find sympathetic new uses for buildings that have no

commercial potential.
Stanley Mills was in use until 1989 as a textiles factory, but was then abandoned and soon became derelict, a victim of vandalism and arson. In 1995, thanks to a £250,000 Lottery grant, the building was sold to Historic Scotland, the Scottish version of English Heritage, having narrowly escaped demolition by local authorities.

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ing living area, beautifully furnish

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Researchers at the University

of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology have

warned homeowners that the

treatments are not being prop-

erly used. The technique is to

drill the wall with a row of

holes, then pump each with

damp-proofing chemicals for

between ten and 20 seconds.

The Manchester team con-

cluded that to create an effect-

ive barrier, the liquid should

be pumped into every hole for

up to 20 minutes. If the wall is

damp when the work is done,

the chemical will not adhere.

way to be certain a wall has

been damp-proofed is to cut

out the brick work from both

sides and insert a layer of slate

to stop any water. But this is

heating, proper ventilation

and maintenance of gutters

and downpipes cures most damp problems, says the South Bank University con-

struction technologists. They

add. incidentally, that it is remarkably difficult to get

water to rise through brick-

work, even under laboratory

The installation of central

hugely expensive.

The BRE says that the only

reports on the

historic Scottish mill restoration backed by the Prince of Wales

since stabilised all the buildings on the site. The Phoenix Trust took on the restoration and development of the East and Mid Mills in September this year.

The mill complex matters. Chris Watkins, project lead-er for Historic Scotland. says: The oldest mill, known as the Bell Mill, is the most complete surviving example of the work of Sir Richard Arkwright, the fac-tory owner and designer who was a pioneer of the Industrial Revolution. The site is a very important part of our industrial heritage." One of Scotland's earliest

water-powered cotton mills, Startley grew in the 1780s

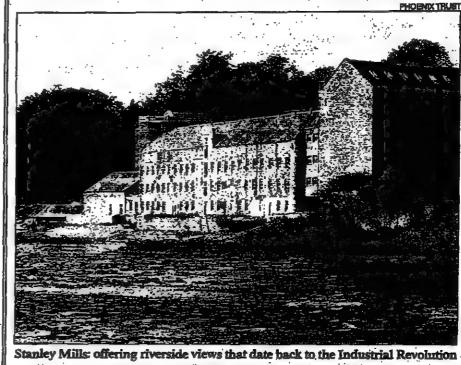
factory complex employing 1,000 people at its height. The Bell Mill is to become

TRADE TRADE

a Museum of the River Tay run by Historic Scotland. The trust is to convert the Mid Mill into nine two to fourbedroom houses with terraces overlooking the river and the East Mill into 30 one to three-bedroom flats. Prices will range from £40,000 to £175,000. Funding is to be provided by the Heritage Lottery Fund, and profits will go towards future projects.

it Martin of the Phoenix Trust says:
We are committed providing affordable housing for locals, as well as providing for buyers from further afield." Those who register an early interest will be able to have a say in the planning, an operation which is extremely flexible owing to the open structures of the buildings.
"Historic Scotland dld a

great thing when it bought Stanley Mills," Mr Martin concludes. The buildings are really worth saving for



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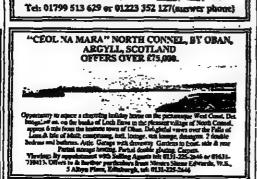
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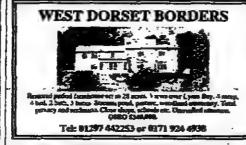


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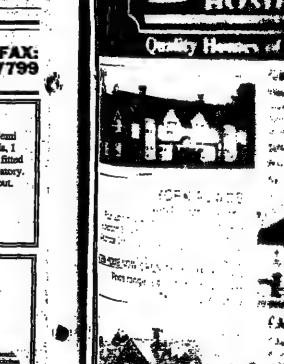


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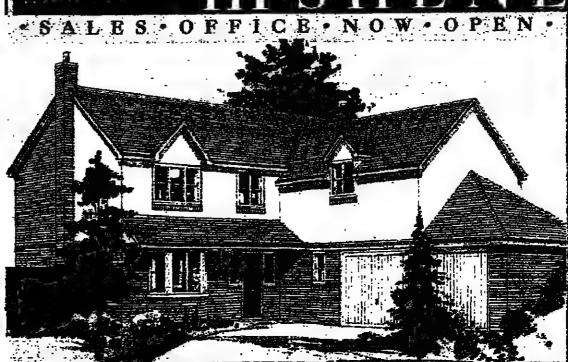
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Brook's latest masterstroke: play it straight

The great interpreter tells Andy Lavender why his new staging of Beckett's Oh Les Beaux Jours sticks faithfully to the original

the past decade and a: curious impresario-provocateur comes to mind: a white-haired figure in a round-neck jumper, shaping some of the most beguiling theatre shows in recent memory. There was The Mahabharata in 1985. Brook's nine-hour version of the Indian epic. There was The Man Who, a show developed from Oliver Sacks's writings about people with neurological disorders, fashioned by Brook and his company into a series of vignettes whose slips and slides evoked minds in disorder. Then there was Qui Est La, a grand endeavour in which the actors discussed the ideas of some of the major figures of world theatre while presenting possible stagings of scenes from Hamlet.

What a surprise, in the face of such lively version-making, to see that Brook's latest offering is a straightforward production of some one else's play. More surprising still is that the play is Oh Les Beaux Jours, the French version of Happy Days, by Samuel Beckett - a writer not known for encouraging free. interpretation. "The marvellous thing is that Beckett doesn't tolerate one changing anything from his intentions." Brook says. "The pleasure was to say that I'll approach it this way, which I've never done with any play, and I've followed him to

As he suggests, following anything to the letter has never been Brook's way. His unorthodoxy has long established him - an Englishman at the head of a multi-ethnic group of actors in Paris — as one of the most influential figures in European theatre. "To keep one's own sense of proportion one must go back constantly, feed oneself by putting oneself in touch with the really great works," he says, Happy Days, wouldn't top that

particular list for many people. The play is more static than Waiting For Godot and Endgame, Beckets pivotal in his dramaturgy, marking the point where he developed single images of mordant intensity. Its main character. Winnie, buried up to her waist and then her neck in a mound of earth, talks incessantly to

whink of the Peter Brook of herself and her nearly silent husband, shuffling around the dirt behind her.

Brook's production was first staged in 1995 and comes to London's Riverside Studios as part of the French Theatre Season. Audiences should know the play in advance or be able to understand French, as it is presented without surtitles. Beckett wrote Happy Days in English in 1961, then prepared a French version whose nuances, Brook suggests, make it more than a

> 6 I really don't want to go into the processes of taking myself seriously 9

"One of Beckett's extraordinary gifts was this sense of the quality of different languages." he says.
"When he rewrote his play in French, at many points what in English is down-to-earth and slangy is turned into something more poetic in the French sense. The character of Winnie is subtly on a different social level. In England the best exponents have not been refined actresses but very tough actresses. It's not for nothing that the first great performer in France was Madeleine Renaud, who was the exact opposite. So although this is a very ordinary, silly chatterbox of a lady, in French it's as if she's from

Winnie is played by Brook's wife, Naiasha Parry. "My wife's a much most celebrated pieces, although it is greater purist than I am." he says. "and I'd get impatient with her in rehearsals and say, 'li you forget to turn your head now and turn it two lines later it doesn't make any difference." She'd try it, and it's not

the provinces. She has aspirations to

class and culture and there's the

impression of a genteel

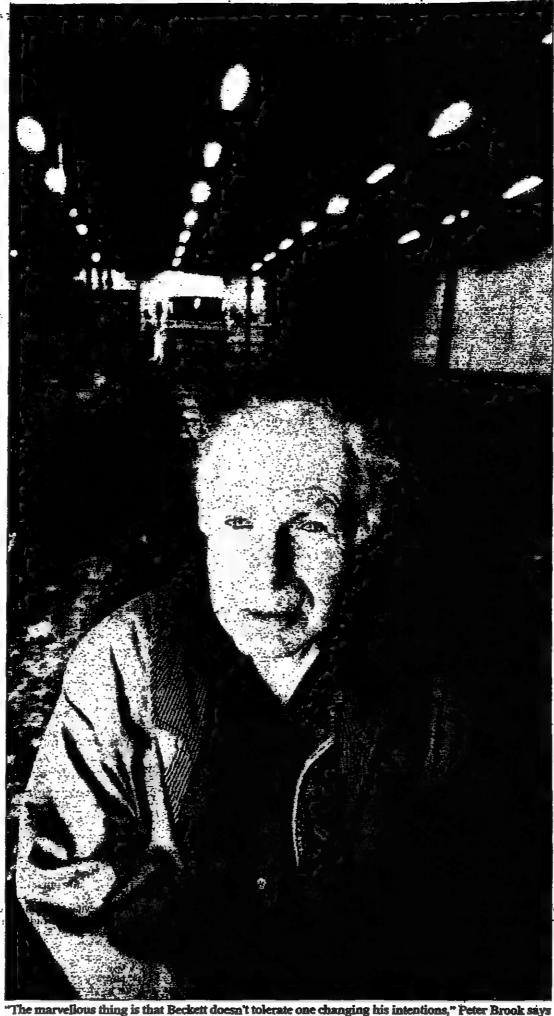
ed that there was nothing more positive than the drama of Beckett a contrary statement given the playwright's liking for chronically world is grinding to a halt under

their noses "I knew him as a friend." Brook explains, "and saw the Beckett that all his friends adored — this droll, life-loving man with generosity, humour and tolerance. Many times we've made the connection between Oh Les Beaux Jours and Greek tragedy, in the sense that tragedy leaves you up against the capacity of the human being to plunge into the deepest abysses of behaviour and despair, and yet this does not drive one to suicide but, on the contrary, awakens in one something extraor-

knew Beckett as a friend ... Now 72, Brook has supped at the tables of some of the most significant theatre-makers of the century. Talking to him, the threads of inspiration and influence through the century seem suddenly more visible. He saw Stanislavsky's productions in repertory at the Moscow Art Theatre, He got on well with the visionary director and designer Edward Gordon Craig. met Brecht, knew the Polish director Jerzy Grotowski. He has argued that theatre can plumb "universal" truths in human experience, crossing cultural boundaries - a contentious view. But his own stagings are forged in the fire of the rehearsal monn, their theatricality as striking as their simplicity. Is he conscious of placing himself in relation to a lineage of European theatre?

"No, I really don't want to be encouraged by a question like that to go into the processes of taking myself seriously," he says. "I do the work I do here and that's it. It's a monstrous thing to say to oneself, I

 Oh Les Beaux Jours is at the Riverside Studios (0181-74) 2255) from tomorrow to Dec 6 and at the Tramway Theatre. Glasgow (0141-287 5511) Dec 10-12, sponsored by Citroën. A retrospective of



Nothing to live for and a lot to say



Richard Briers and Geraldine McEwan are in brilliant form in Simon McBurney's revival of lonesco's The Chairs

Beckents Waiting for Godot has long been regarded as a - maybe, the - modern classic play. But while the little-known Irish expatriate was composing it in Paris in the late 1940s, an equally obscure Romanian exlle was at work in the same city, creating a no less original black comedy that also involved two people's desperate those he has now lured into the determination to find signifi-West End. cance for themselves in a deso-

Chairs appeared on the Eng-lish stage about one-liftieth as often as Godor? Theatre de Complicite's remarkable co-production with the Royal Court provides an-

swers, Unlike Ionesco, Beckett

post-diluvian world.

translated his own work from French into English, and the standard version of The Chairs, though serviceable, hasn't the snap and crackle that the dramatist Martin Crimp now gives it. Nor has the play previously attracted British directors of the calibre of Simon McBurney or leading performers as skilful as

Richard Briers and Geraldine McEwan peering at us through their window, I knew this revival would be special. That was confirmed when they reappeared on the Quay Brothers' set, a palely lit arc of ugly, jumbled grey doors out-side which, to judge from the

The Chaks Duke of York's

distant howls and nearby splashes, was a moat beyond which lurked either wolves or the damned. He was a glazed, stupidly grinning old satyr who spoke in fake-jaunty barks: she an upside-down turnip with white wisps sprouting from its withered top, skittering about in flowery overalls, mewing and honking and sounding half-bookers.

They are a wonderfully funmy due, but not only funny. The Old Man and Woman, as they are baldly called, are married, in their nineties, and-

wasted lives as Beckett's similarly aged, comparably clownish tramps. But tonight they won't just retell the stories with which they have bored each other for 70 years. To-night the Old Woman will help the man she loves and despises give his "message" to humanity. So on comes wonky chair after wonky chair, 50 in all, while in pour invisible guests, culminating in the blare of brass and glare of light that announces the arriv-

al of an unseen emperor. A crazed daydream, or a

metaphor for the predicament of the writer, who yearns for communicating nothing to anyone? Both, and more. The

fail to the floor as Beckett's Estragon takes off his belt to hang himself. Briers's chosen spokesman arrives, smirking and preening himself, and turns out to be a deaf-mute whose "message" to the empty chairs is garbled nonsense about God scrawled on a blackboard.

In 1952, when it was first staged. The Chairs addressed a world still reeling at the Holocaust and the Bomb. McBurney suggests that the scattered anxieties of our own day. That is a rediscovery of real importance.

> BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

Snaps of their fading dreams

HIDDEN in the small print on theatre tickets should be a warning that some flashes of theatrical insight are more painful than others, James Christopher writes. Occasionally, however, a writer will deliberately drill into an exposed nerve for the sheer hell

So it is with Christophe Pellet's new play, the first in the Royal Court's New European Writers' season, and the aw nerve he picks is the intangible fear among thirtysomethings of lost opportunities and growing old. A dream team, assembled by director Mary Peate around Martin Crimp's crisp translation, turns Pellet's conversations over a metal café table into hugely stylish set pieces.

It is the night after a party. Antoine is nursing a hang-over, his best friend Pierre is thinking about his job inter-



view. Should Antoine sleer with Georgina Sowerby's mysterious Clarisse? Should Pierre snip a few years off his

Simon Vincenzi and his lighting designer Chahine Yavroyan turn the Theatre Upstairs stage into a small cinema. A square black screen opens and closes, framing each scene like a movie still Fergus O'Hare's addictive house music is injected, like a oft of heroin, during the blackouts between scene

Another Saturday night snaps into focus. Like a blond, dyspeptic stork Paul Bettany's Antoine leaps on Clarisse in her bedroom. But love is short-lived. Clarisse's self-obsession proves to be an allconsuming interest on Sunday morning A year of Sunday mornings and she colour of his eyes. --

The stiliness of Peller's with the subtle changes of power. Mathew Rhys's insidious Pierre swaps his leather jacket for a shiny suit. It goest with the new job in TV. Like & trainspotter, he lounges in an armchair listing the job prospects that go with his new (younger) self. Antoine cannot engage. He has become beached in his past.

Pierre arranges a seedy transaction between Antoine and a married man which is creepily evoked by the taking off and putting on of new shoes. You must pretend, Insists Pierre, to be younger. It's the only thing that counts.

It is Bettany's captivating performance as Antoine that screws the production into place. He fades spookily into the foreground, as if about to step out of screen. The sea slaps the beach, gulls screech

Mary Peate's production works laterally as well as literally. It is a magnificent piece of designer theatre that remains beautifully out of reach. Perhaps we should be wearing it rather than just

New blood. and a little boodletting

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Aing together. Forced Entertainment's reputing together. Forced ation skyrocketed with two Emanuel Enchanted and Club of No Regrets. Both presented an extraordinary mixture of naivery and violence set in another, more beautiful world. Beyond the sweetness was a very true understanding of urban hope and disappointment, and the hidden impact of culture. In particular they understood how film affected life: the way it changed romantic and sexual behaviour, the experience of film-like moments and the way it produced a whole new load of very 20th-century archetypes.

As a result, Forced Entertainment must be one of Britain's most plagiarised theatre companies. From Scotland to North Africa I have watched lookalike shows saturated with Forced Entertainment keynotes fake guns. stage borze, scared-cyed girls and shabby cardboard signs saying things like "Gay Cop" or "Teenage Runaway". Ironcally, when the company lost its funding, groups which amounted to little more than ribute bands continued to pull

Amedica Bustol

uel Enchanted. The action. what little there is of it, is set in a rundown nightclub in some dead end place, too late at night. There has been an overload of pleasures; the slow hipsway of the slow-dance music has been taken right down to lorpm. The acts have been knocking back boose all night and are beyond embarrassment, beyond pretending that they actually enjoy entertaining the late-night club crowd. Even nakedness loses its sexuality, to become another symptom of a sotted lifestyle that is way past

Forced Entertainment have often played games with curtains and notions of theatricality: in Pleasure the curtain suddenly takes on the feel of a hospital screen. The audience is waithing something that it shouldn't really see: sex, death or humiliation. At its most dark and disturbing. Pleasure shows people right at the limits of their vulnerability.

In one scene a drunken man, naked except for a pantomime horse's head and trousers stumped round his ankles, drags himself painfully across the stage on his stomach. The other actors ignore him, one even reads a

A tougher act to follow the curtains shut and conceal himself. Later, when a dancer is shot, the MC asks repeatedly for the curtains to be closed,

but nobody will do it. Pleasure looks deep at ideas of watching and being watched. The nightclub performers are there for our pleasure but, because they resent performing, they show too much. The audience is forced into a position of voy-eurism and, like traffic crawling past the scene of a car crash, the more things goes wrong the stronger the compulsion to keep watching.

The pace is relentlessly sluggish and the dialogue sparse; there is no real change of state by the end of the show. Tim Etchells, the director, expects only about half the audience to accept the show and expressed surprise that so lew people walked out.

Seen in the context of Forced Entertainment's work to date. Pleasure is just the next part of their grand procession of theatre, which is sometimes ugly, sometimes beautiful. After the confessional charm and winsome delivery of the past four shows. Pleasure is a shock, but one which will possibly send the company off in a new direction and make them, for the time being, a little less easy

HETTIE JUDAH

GREAT BRITISH HOPES

Rising stars in the arts firmament

RUPERT GOOLD

Profession: A precociously ralented theatre director. nicknamed "Scheme Boy" for the number of Young Director Training Schemes he has accumulated in the two years since leaving Trinity College, Cambridge (with a First, of course). These include the 1995 Carlton/ Donmar Warehouse Trainee Directorship under Sam Mendes and the 1996 Regional Theatre Young Directors' Scheme at Salisbury Playhouse under Jonathan Church. Previous winners include Trevor Nunn.

Fame is the spur? No, in fact. "It was the best way to meet girls at school

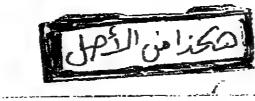
Present project: Directing his own adaptation at the Bridewell Theatre of Graham Greene's The End of the Affair. it's been my theatrical love affair for two years." Greatest challenge? Justin Butcher and Caroline Faber, who

star in the play, were at school with Goold. "It's hard to direct people who remember you in your school blazer." First professional show: John Godber's Bouncers at the

Salisbury Playhouse Studio last year. We turned it into an installation piece. We stood outside pubs at closing time, recorded drunks, and mixed their vox pops with music."

Big splashes in 97: Giles Havergal's adaptation of Travels. With My Aunt. It was my first main house show at Salisbury. But this pales in comparison to his subsequent production of Henry V with a cast of 90. The Battle of

JAMES CHRISTOPHER



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GREAT BRITISH HOPES

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Tales of the utterly unexpected That sad, grey lives professional booers one or two dutifully in attendance at the first night of the Royal Opera's new Barber of Seville on Monday, hurling their unattractive uhlations at the production team and every so often looking round sheepishly to check that they were being noticed - as one of them had commandeered a stage box there was little chance of that not happening. What holes are there in these people's lives that make them reject the unexpected on principle? Not that they had it all their own way: cheers soon over-

Admittedly it had taken the

audience a little time to tune in. Early on there were moments of sturned silence where one might have expected applause, but by the first-act finale enough people had got the message for the rest of the performance to be greeted with gales of well-earned laughter.

The Barber is a farce, the only full-length farce that Rossini com-posed. The designer-director Nigel Lowery and his co-director and choreographer Amir Hosseinpour treat it as such, adding the element of surrealism to spice it all up. Many of the jokes depend on surprise, and it would do no one any service to describe them; it is enough to say that the curtain rises on a Florello who is a knifewielding thug in a grubby vest, and serenaders who mug Almaviva rather than thank him.

There are extended passages of inspired comic direction - the firstact finale, launched by the officer accidentally shooting one of the doves that decorate the set, with its policemen turning into music-hall burglars, glove-puppets popping out of unexpected places, a Ringstyle wall of fire (one of several permissable in-jokes), the whole set disintegrating, all capped by the intervention of -no, go and see for vourself. It left me breathless with laughter, and was plainly inspired by the lunacy of the music. There are two classic comic

performances. Sergej Aleksashkin (Basilio) is blessed with the mountful features of the traditional Russian clown. He makes you laugh before he has done a thing, and so does his costume of evening tails. brown boots and no socks. His flying contribution to the secondact quintet was another episode I shall treasure all my life. And he sings well. Roberto Frontali's alert, deadpan Figaro is another brilliant unyieldingly sung.
Which leads to my only doubt

about the evening, the conducting



Game for lots of laughs but getting boos: Roberto Frontali (Figaro), Carmen Oprisanu (Rosina), Donald Maxwell (Bartolo) and Paul Austin Kelly (Count Almaviva)

of Antonello Allemandi. It's all strict tempo and briskly businesslike, but even in the context of farce Rossini filled his score with love and wit, commodities in short supply on the musical front. And. the briskness does tempt everyone to sing too loudly, especially the relentessly fortissimo Bartolo of Donald Maxwell.

The Romanian mezzo Carmen Oprisanu was a warm-toned, amiably agile Rosina; I am not sure whether her air of general bewil-derment, as though she had somehow strayed into the wrong production, was intentional or not. Paul Austin Kelly sang Almaviva as well as most can nowadays, and kept his comic end up with Frontali and Aleksashkin. I can't remember that's what Rossini wanted.

RODNEY MILNES

A night of contrast for a masterpiece THIS was an evening of British and was killed near Leningrad in

amateurism at its best and at its worst. At its best in the fervour of the contribution of the Berkshire County Youth Orchestra, at its worst — among many other things - in some of the third-rate music it was required to play, Rodney Milnes writes.

The main purpose of Sunday's concert was the British premiere of Benjamin Fleishman's one-act opera Rothschild's Violin, presen by the Jewish Music Heritage Trust and Thameside Opera, a thoroughly worthy undertaking, at least in principle.

preceded by an unadvertised first half lasting an hour and a quarter, much of it taken up with shifting volunteered for military service, sung in Russian, and the pro-

chairs and music stands, during which times the auditorium lights remained firmly doused so that no

The only substantial music was Shostakovich's String Quartet Op 110, inevitably diminished by ing given in the arrangement for string orchestra by Rudolf Barshai. Seldom has an interval been awaited more eagerly.

one knew where they were or what

composition class in 1937. On Jakov Ivanov and members of the Hitler's invasion of Russia he town band. The performance was

1941, having orchestrated only the central section of Rothschild's Violin; Shostakovich completed his pupil's work out of admiration. It was first staged in 1968 and. given its Jewish subject matter.

immediately banned; only in the

present decade has it emerged into the international light. Even on this showing, it is plainly a little masterpiece - the

qualification "little" occasioned by its 40-minute length and nothing The plot is taken from Chekhov, set in a shteti, and concerned with

equate when not actually misleading; needless to say the auditorium lights were left full up, despite the fact that the opera was semi-staged and in costume, though Jeremy White, the protagonist, carried a crib throughout. Well, yes, it's a long role but — words had better fail me.

gramme synopsia was wholly inad-

Still, one could marvel at the rich vein of melody running through the 40 minutes, the definess of the word-setting, the brilliance of the instrumentation by both composers. Fleishman's iron control of fluid dramaturgy and overall pace, major talent. And long for a professional performance under altogether happier circumstances.

CONCERTS: Maxwell Davies premiere; touring Czech players; musical wit

stripers

Centre in London will declare itself the "unofficial 51st state" next year when it launches a £3 million Inventing America festival. Claimed as the "world's largest ever celebration of American culture", the festival opens on January 25 and runs to Thanksgiving Day, exactly a year from now on November 26. It ranges from opera (the LSO performing John Adams's Nixon in China) and theatre (the Steppenwolf Theatre Company, and a collaboration between Robert Wilson and Philip Glass) to jazz (Max Roach, Sonny Rollins) and dance (Merce Cunningham, Twyla Tharp). Plus American cinema, literature, pop and food.

QALLERIES: Rather aptly, a Swede has been appointed as the first director of the Baltic Flour Mills in Gatesbead, which will be the largest visual arts centre in Britain outside London when It opens in two years' time. Sune Nordgren, 49, a former art critic, is currently director of the International Artists Studio Programme in Sweden. The 646 million Baltic Flour Mills project was awarded £33.4 million of lottery funding in June. Work to convert the building starts in the new year.

AUCTIONS: An 85-year-old pensioner from a village outside Stirling may be £10,000 richer next week when Phillips sells a Bartolome' Murillo miniature of St Joseph and the Sleeping Christ Child at auction in London. The drawing, by one of Spain's leading 17th-century artists, was mentioned in an 1840 catalogue, but thought to be lost. The present owner bought it in a local shop in the 1940s. He decided to sell after moving to a cottage and finding that he couldn't fit in all his belongings

HERITAGE: Exactly 75 years ago today Howard Carter made his historic locision into the tomb of Tutankhamun, and saw wonderful things. everywhere the glint of gold". But how truthful was his account of the discovery? Some scholars have accused Carter of fabricating details to cover up irregularities in his exploration. On Friday a new investigative" show opens at Dorchester in Dorset, presenting the "new evidence" about Carter's discoveries. It will be included in The Tutankhamun Exhibition which has been

years with replicas of the tomb's

New blood, and a little bloodletting

Decca has staved off disaster and is remaking itself as the top opera

label. Simon Tait finds out how

president of Decca, Roger Lewis, signed one of the most precocious talents in opera, Cecilia Bartoli, for a new five-year contract. That was an important moment for Lewis: a milestone on his journey towards making Decca, close to disaster a year ago, the opera-label. Bartoli and other young stars, such as the German baritone Matthias Goerne (signed in the summer), are

Decca's future. By the time she finishes this contract, Bartoli will have completed 20 years with Decca 40. But while the champagne flowed at the Ritz. the blood on the walls at Decca's Chiswick HQ was barely dry.

Since he was poached from EMI last January Lewis has recontracted other important opera names, such as Riccardo Chailly, chief con-ductor of the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra of Amsterdam, to sit alongside the biggest name of them all, Pavarotti. Indeed, one of Lewis's first acts in January was to offer Sir Georg Solti a lifetime contract. His contract was due to expire in October, and it would have been churlish to have offered our most important musician anything less, after he had stuck with us for 50 years,"

But even while he was

ast week in London the Lewis was wielding the axe elsewhere in the quintessentially British record company. "It has been tough," he says.
"It has been brutal and it's been bloody, but we had to go forward sensibly if we were to have a future."

Pretty well everything has been at least halved. Decca's staff is down from 120 to 60; its recording list down from 100 to 50. And some performers have been ditched. The fine American violinist Joshna Bell has gone, his contract ai-

and more are

on contract has

slumped from 40

Lewis's appoint-

ment by the par-

ent company,

6 You can't lowed to lapse, being let go. The number of artists create great art by the yard 9

PolyGram, was a surprise. A music graduate from Nottingham, he worked as a musician before launching himself into radio: producer/presenter at Radio Tees for two years, producer for Capital Radio for one, Radio I producer for two, and suddenly head of music at Radio I. Then he went to EMI as director of the classical division, before heading the EMI Premier

· His mission now, he says, is not just to ensure Decca's future but to lead the classical-music recording industry back from the brink, to cease the "dumbing down" process of producing celebrity recordings, "mood" compilations



Roger Lewis with a galaxy of his Decca star signings

what is becoming known merely as "product". "A few years ago the recording studio was a temple of musicmaking and it held the opportunity for artists to achieve immortality. They never entered unless they had about the music."

Then along came the CD. and an inundation of newtech recordings. Artists and companies got greedy. "It enabled them to dig deep into their vaults for reissues. But you can't create great art by the yard. There was too much for the afficionados." While there were still im-

portant records being made

— Lewis cites Nikolaus Harnoncourt's Beethoven symphonies for Warner Classics of a couple of years ago — they were swamped.
They haven't been given signing up some performers. and the general outpouring of space in the market to

breathe. The whole magic of going into the recording stu-dio had been lost." Decca, he says, is trying to recapture some of the stardust. Some good has come out of

the turmoil of the past few years. The recording industry is encouraging great artists to explore the rep in greater breadth and depth. whereas artists had been reluctant to go beyond the known works in the recording studio," Lewis claims. There has been a hunger for expanding, so that you get not only the traditional repertoire but the lesser known work. "Decca's future is to select a

group of international artists who have something major to say. There will be more signings. And with Solti gone, there are no great maestros any more. He leaves a void we have to find a way of

tion of the second second

Suffering for art | Distant Prague

THE Barbican's neat week-end festival of Max, Britten and Tippett, presented by the City of London Sinfonia and Richard Hickox, was crowned by the European premiere of Sir Peter Maxwell Davies's oratorio Job. A substantial new choral piece is something of a rarrity these days. But the University of British Columbia, which commissioned the work (Job was first performed in Vancouver in May), must have had a shrewd suspicion that, after Taverner and The Martyr-

Through his own creative struggle, the composer has responded with a sober triptych whose formidable structure and austere language fuse to explore with bleak yet moving dignity this archetype of human suffering. Nothing is quite as it seems. Satan can speak through the voices of soprano and mezzo, or tenor and haritone, and does so with restraint. The Lord, sung by the chorus, speaks in a frenzy of brass and wind. Job can spread himself through all four voices as if his suffering were too all-pervasive to be contained in one. This makes for an initially disconcerting, then increas-

dom of St Magnus, the much put-upon biblical Job might well be Max's man.

arioso writing, composed spe-THE loss of Romantic ideals after the First World War changed the face of music in this country, as elsewhere. Inflated Wagnerian rhetoric gave way to sharper forms and musical idioms that might be either more cerebral or more lighthearted. Sunday afternoon's programme by the Nash Ensemble celebrated the latter trend, with music by

ingly potent, sense of abstrac-

tion. Davies's impassioned

Constant Lambert, the youn-ger Arthur Bliss and William Walton, whose Fapade blazed a trail with its iconoclastic wit in the early Twenties. The programme formed a part of the excellent series Dreamers of Dreams. The implicitly visionary nature of that ritle may not have suited



cifically for the Canadian lyric baritone Kevin McMillan, movingly refocuses the individual within the universal. The musical language grows steadily, almost imper-

ceptibly, out of the opening plainchant-like narration. It becomes transformed into astringent yet lyrical string counterpoint, pungent woodwind dialogue, pitched percussion. And in the human voice - whether it be the BBC Singers or the other fine soloists, Catherine Pierard, Catherine Wyn-Rogers and Mark Padmore - it becomes a sombre, syllabic sequence of

word-carvings.

A central climax is reached as the chorus whisper, then peal out those qualities which were Job's glory and his downfall: "Majesty, courage, wisdom, silence." And in their final apotheosis, those pounding syllables hammer out the Almighty's succession of rhe-torical questions. As the chorus whispers "All things are touched with colour. The whole world is changed," the freshness and stature of Maxwell Davies's response to Job's final, wonder-filled vision is realised and affirmed.

fragrance and the gentle beauty of Prague and feel the

landscape of the great city and the flow of the river Vitava." That, surely, would be achievement enough for any orchestra from the Czech Republic, let alone one founded only four years ago. But there's more. "This," the programme claims, "is the sound

which Dvořák intended for his

compositions,"

The Czech National Symphony Orchestra is a very competent ensemble with attractively flexible if not exactly luxuriant strings, accurate tuning and a good overall balance. The sound is clearly not, on the other hand, the kind of thing Dvorak had in mind - instruments, techniques and priorities have changed over the past hun-dred years. And it is extremely doubtful that anyone in Symother places on the orchestra's tour of Britain and Ireland, would have experienced visual or olfactory hallucinations associated with Prague. Indeed, having played Smetana's VItava eight times in the 12 concerts on the way to Symphony Hall, the orchestra seemed to have no particularly

vivid image of it either. In general, however, the Birmingham stage of the tour HILARY FINCH was something of a refuge for the Czech musicians. They

were staying in the one place

for four days and they were playing a different repertoire in a series of three concerts billed as a "Czech Festival". In the absence of their chief conductor, Paul Freeman, they were working with Libor Pešek, and on this occasion they had the opportunity to sense the fragrance of Birmingham by joining with the CBSO Chorus in a major choral work. The Dvořák Te Deum was the best part of the concert. Pešek acknowledged its concise construction in an interpretation as dynamic as it was economical and secured a wide variety in colour from the chorus and his soloists. Susan Bullock and Paul Whelan.

Regret that there was not more of an audience for the Te Deum was tempered by relief that there were not so many to be disappointed by Ittai Shapiro's account of Dvořák's Violin Concerto. Unattractive in sound, insecure in intonation, charmless in phrasing, it was a performance to cause one to question yet again the quality-control of the agency which manages these orches-tral tours on behalf of the halls that pay for them.

GERALD LARNER

version Mr Bear Squash-you-all Flat, performed here by

reciter and ensemble, is for a

student work an impressive

Frivolous Bliss

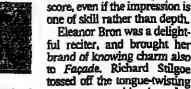
this particularly frivolous programme, but that in no way detracted from the enjoyment of it. The Bliss pieces heard in the first half were dearly influenced by Stravinsky and Ravel, and set him on a parallel course to that of Poulenc and other members of Les Six. I confess to finding the young Bliss's strictures on Germanic music - "at the same time ponderous and trivial - a little rich coming from a novice bent on somewhat superficial entertain-

ment. His Conversations is



but is scarcely the antithesis of

Women of Yueh, the former a setting of nonsense verse, the latter of Chinese poems, are both economically scored and were delivered with assurance by Rosemary Hardy, standing in for Rosa Mannion at short



His Madam Noy and The worth the occasional outing, notice. Constant Lambert's di-

one of skill rather than depth. Eleanor Bron was a delightful reciter, and brought her

brand of knowing charm also to Façade. Richard Stilgoe tossed off the tongue-twisting patter songs with virtuosity. The Nash Ensemble under Martyn Brabbins were vigorous in attack, clean and precise in ensemble, lacking the languorous touch in some numbers perhaps, but other-

> BARRY MILLINGTON

مكذا من رلامل

EUGENE ONEGIN: Yours Tremo mutes a recomp return to the English National Opera to sing the role of Tanyana in Tchakovsky's popular work. The young American bantone, Andrew tistatious Oiga, Alexandor Poliametiko, of the Kalov Opera conducts Julia Hollandar's attractive production.

Colliseum St Mater's Land, WC2 (0171-432 8390) Toroght 7 30pm (S)

SIBELIUS CYCLE: The survey of Sibelius's major works continues with a double opportunity to how the counting work at Ann: Sophe Matter as paint with the London Symphony Orchestra conducted by Sir Colin Davis. This programme features the Finnish compaser's only walm conserto, tramed by Symphonies Nos 6 and 7 Barblean, Silv Street, EC2 (0171-638 3891; Tonight tomunow 7 30pm.

WIGMORE VARIETY A choice of two events are on ofter from tranght. At 6pm the BBC Radio 3 Vorces series opens with a recital by the mezza Arm Murray, with Several Bedford, prans, in an improvating programme featuring works by Besthaven, Borting, Rinn and Barber. As Secret Internet. Ar apm the Urrannan partist Evgany Solenis offers music by Mediner Rachmannov, Stravnsky, Prokobev and Lists including a rare performance of Wignore Half, Warrare Street, W1 10171-935 21411

D SEAUTY AND THE BEAST Districts from turned units a fur Broadway music of Julio-Alanah Brighten and Alabday Harvey as the leads, with support from the likes of Derek Griffiths and Norman Rossington Dominion, Tottenham Court Road, W1 (0171-416 5060), Mon-Sat, 7 30pm ma Sat, 2 30pm

III THE BOYS IN THE BAND MAIN Circulary's ground-breaking gay play from 1968 now something of a penod piece with its gay means with but welched message. Transfer from the King's Head Islington Aldwych, The Akhrysh WC2 (0171-416 6003) Mon-Sar, 8pm, mats Thur and Sat. 3pm.

LITTHE CHAIRS Record Books and Goraldine McE wan play the ancient couple waiting for their important guests in lone acro's celebrated 'tragic tards Sanon McBurney directs for Complete design by the Quay

Royal Court Downstairs (Duke of York's), St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-585 5000; Mon-Set, 7 30pm, mat Sal (from Nov 29), 2 30pm, 5

PLOOR Ho-may militions VT SMAR (2) young incefuls from the New York School of the Portorming Arts Touring compan, in London for for weeks Victoria Palaces, Victoria St SWI (0171-834 1317) Mon-Thur, 7-30pm, Fri. 5 30pm and 8pm Sat, 3pm and 7 30pm Until Jan 17

E A GRAND WIGHT OUT WILLOW and Gromil take to the stage for Christmas, pursued to London by the Penguan, escaped from gaoi and bent on revenge. Nick Park's characters put

NEW RELEASES EXCERN BAGGAGE (12) Alton secure her father's love. Empty-headed

and recipienting comed. Virgin Trocadero & (0181-970 6015) INVENTING THE ASSOTTS (16) ng of aga in late 1950s illinoi y kolemn and old-lashioned Pat O Connor deeds Joseph Phoens, Let Tyler, Billy Crudup ABC Shaffesburn A ury Av (0171-836 6279)

LAWN DOGS (15): Two outsider a form a dangeroup mendatrip in Kentuc cy. Imagmistiva drama, with strong performances by Mischa Baron air d Sam Roc-erell Director, John Dugan ABC Tottenlium Ct Rd (0171-506 6148) Curzon W E (0171-369 1722) NOTHING TO LOSE (15) Tim

Robbins wastes his time and ours in a ame comedy about an adventising becutive or the road with a mugger Non Made Learence Votri Marini Larrence
Odeson Marisle Arch (9181-315 4216)
Ritzy (0171-737 2121) UCI Whiteleys

3 (0991 882790) Virgin Trocadero (19181-970 6015) Warner (19181-970 6015)

REGENERATION (15) Powerful and poliginant version of Pat Barker's novel about limit wireful with solidiers in an Edinburgh military nospital with Jonathan Pryce and James Wiley Director Giller Mackenson Odeon Haymarket (0151-315 4212) BEVEN YEARS IN THIET PG Brad Pitt Isido enlightenment in 1940s. Tibel, our sitot koout voll Handsome

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment and entertainment compiled by Marit Hargie

THEATRE IN THE TIME OF THE GENERALS Four short Argentinian plays, withen in opposition to the Junta dictatorship, and part of the movement authors are Carlos Sorngliana, Eduardo Pavlovsky, Maundio Khartun

and Roberto Cossa. Pinborough Theetre Club. 118 Pinborough Road, SW10 (0171-373 3842) Previews tonghs, 7.30pm Opens Thus, 7.30pm. Then Tue-Sat, 7.30pm, Sun. 4pm. Until December 20



Anne Sophie Mutter plays at the Barbican

THEATRE GUIDE

through their paces by the Thursbritish FAB team. Peacock Theatre, Portugal Street, oil Kingsway, WC2 (0171-494 5090), Mon-Sal. 7 30pm, mat Sat, 3pm From Dec KING LEAR. Alan Howard in the

lead, with Victoria Hermition as Corde and Greg Hicks, as Edmund in Peter Old Visc. Waterigo Road, SE1 (0171-928 7616) Tonight, 7.30pm, fornordw, 2.30pm, in rep

POPCORN Ben Blon's bilatering cornedy about move volence A Tarantanoesque director gets his corneupoance when a couple of sonal killers blame him for their misdeeds. Laurence Blametif Allerts. Bioswell (érocis. Apollo, Shalterbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070) Mon-Sai, 8pm; mais Ved, 3pm, and Sal, 4pm. SHE KNOWS YOU KNOW! James

Fergusson writes and stars in this life slory of the celebrated come Hyldan Baker, but all the stars in the star in the stars in the stars in the star in the stars in the sta story of the celebrated comic hydral Baker, by all accounts a funny but difficult woman Maudantile Theorem, The Strand, WC2 (171-836 9987) Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm Until December 7 ☐ THE SLOW DRAG - Jazz musical by Carson Kreitzer, loosely based on the story of Billy Tipton, a woman who passed as a man to find work as a jazz musican. Liza Sadowy jons Kim Chswell and Christopher Colgungum from Lisa Forrel's Freedom Cate production agrief this year. production earlier this year White and Theore, White at SM(0171-369 1735) Morr-Thur, Spnr, Fn

CRAWLEY: The Moscow City Bellet aunches to autensive winter loar of the UK with three performances of its production of Tetrahousky's enchanting Chicamas story. The Nuterracter. The four which also includes performances of Sleeping Beauty. Ciscilio, Swan Lelic and a new production of Don Oussole concludes in Newcastle in February Hawth, Hawth Avenue (1293 553636) Tonghi-Fn, 7:30pm. [9]
GLASGOW: Dunder Beam.

GLASGOW Durder Rep in association with the Transacy presents Bill Franksy's new translation of

SM Findley's new Intrestation or Hauptmann's tremendous 19th-century drama. The Weavers Workers ground down by powerly finally revolt against their ferocous or ployers. Transvey, Albert Drive, Glasgion (0141-227 5511). Tongrit-Sat. 8pm. (2)

DARLINGTON: A visit here by the Northern Stationia under Themy Flacher with a programme leasuring music by Flank Marin, Dena Burrell, Florent Schmitt, Rasel and Beethoven

STRATFORD UPON AVON: James

Mecdonaid's tirst production for the RSC is Roberto Zarco, by Bornard-Mane Kottes, Zubin Varla plays the hero on the nan is he rapest, lower, foller, spy?
The Other Plane, Southern Lamp (01789 235623) Opens tonight, 7pm in remarking 8.

591 996). Tonight, 7.45pm.

LONDON GALLERIES

Sarbican: Don McCullin (0171-838)

Bedian: Custody, cars and cure (0171-600 0807) ... National: Hogarth's Marriage A-la-Mode (0171-747 2885)

and Set, 7pm and 9.30pm, THREE VIEWINGS: Quirky comed drama by New Yorker Jeffrey Hatcher, sed in a mortuary twinch this theatre ses in a monutary remon this means once was livery curous people come to view the recently dead — seemingly an American custom. With Karen Accol Ann Periold, Robert Jeask A Derby Payhouse production by Mark

New End, 27 New End, Hampetined NW3 (0171-794 0022) Tue-Sat, 7 30pm; mats Sat and Sun, 3.30pm, Until

LONG RUNNERS

☐ Buddy: Strand (0171-930 8900)
☐ The Complete Works of Ticket information supplied by Society of Lundon Theater.

CINEMA GUIDE

and imagination course, with Dayle r Town (0181-315 4255) Kensington (0181-318 4214) Merble Arch (0181-315 4216) Swiss Cottage (0181-315 4220) Pleza (3) (0990 888970) UCI Whentay (3) (0990

WELCOME TO SARAJEVO (15) Sinking British account of reporters covering the civil war in 1992, based or Michael Nicholson's experiencins. With Michael Necrosors appearance was Stephen Dilane ABC Totherhum Court Road (917)-636 6148) Greenwich (0181-235 3005) Odeons: Camden Town (0181-315 4255) Kerssington (0181-315 4274) Wingin Haymarket (0171-839 1527) Warmer © (0171-437 4343)

CURRENT

CHASING AMY (18) Come-b utist hods himself in love with a lesbian oppealing new film from Clarks director levin Smith Kevn Smith Claphaco PH (0171-498 3323) Curzon Phoenix (0171-369 1721) Gate (§ 10171-727 4043) Greenwich (0181-238 (0171-727 4043) Greenwich (018 3005) Metro (0171-437 0757) Ode

ien (0181-315 4255) |

(0181-332 0030) Ritay (0171-737 2121) UCI Whiteleye 👸 (0990 888990)

 PACE/OFF (18): FBI agent John
Travolta and lerrons! Moolas Cage sive
identifies. Outrageous hinter that never
increase when to place. Anows when to stop ABC Totalenham Ct Rd (0171-536 6145) Greenwish (0181-235 3005) Odeons: Caradian (0181-315 4255) Kenshington (0181-315 4214) Lalosed Squere (0181-315 4216) Marbia Arch (0181-315 4216) Swinn Cottage (0181 Wnishen (0171-352 5096) Virgin

+ LA COMPIDENTIAL I'E ← Z.A. COMPROPYTIAL 1/16;
 Smatching drama about corruption in LA in line early 1950s, with News Spacey, Russiel Crowe, Kim Bassinger, Guy Pource and Denny DeVito Greenwich (0181-235 3005) Notiting 1/08 Corronat (5) (0171-727 6705) Octeons: Campion Town (0181-315 4255) Kenelngton (0181-315 4214) 4355) Kensington (1781-13-4214) Swine Marble Arch (1018-1315-4220) Ritzy (0171-737-2121) Screen/Hill & (0171-435-3366) UCI Whiteleys & (0990-888990) Virgin Haymarlot (0171-439-1527) Warner & (0171-437-4343)

WILDE (15): Stephen Fry as Oscar Wide. Into and rouching, though the film is more himst than you might expect. Convertional direction by Drian Calbert. ABC Pention St (0171-930 0631) ASC Person St (0171-930 0531) Chelses (0171-351 3742) Odeons: Kensington (0181-315 4214) Mezzanine (0 (0181-315 4215) Swise Cottage (0181-315 420) Ritzy (0171-737 2121) Screen/Balter St (0171-935 Screen/Baker St (0171 mer (2) 10171-437 4343

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rejuvenated. To provide the material for her new album, Gone From Danger, the 56-year-old folk singer recruited a group of new songwriters, most of them women, with an average age half her own. Their youthful company inspired a fresh passion and emotional energy, resulting in the most worldly and connected album she has

made in years. In Sussex, on the first night of her British tour, she trod an intelligent path between showcasing her recent musical makeover and celebrating the old favourites which her audience had come to hear. The loudest cheers still greeted such perennials as Joe Hill and Leonard Cohen's Suzanne, but her pure voice sounded detached, delivering

By contrast, new songs such as I am no Mermaid by the Irish writer Sinead Lohan and Dar Williams's vulnerably honest If I Wrote You were spirited and invigorating, the singer involved in her material and obviously excited by her fresh lease of life.

the songs rather than inter-

preting them.

She was joined on stage by Betty Elders, who wrote Crack in the Mirror, a dramatic tale of child abuse. There was a palpable chill when Baez delivered the song's stark attack on the conspiracy of silence.

Joan Baez The Hawith Crawley

Richard Shindell also joined Baez to play the three songs he contributed to the album. Their duet on Fishing, an interview between a cynical immigration officer and an illegal refugee, provoked genuine concern about the fate of the characters, an astonishing achievement within the confines of a three-minute song.

Only in the encore did the ghost of Bob Dylan, with whom Baez will always be associated in people's minds. make an appearance with Don't Think Twice, It's All Right and, appropriately, For-

Baez has tapped a rich vein of contemporary songwriting, touching on real issues in the great narrative folk tradition. Those who came expecting a repeat of the cosy, even complacent affair that was her last tour here 18 months ago must have been mildly shocked. It's a long time since one left a Baez concert feeling challenged and all credit to her for one of the most convincing musical renaissances of recent

> NIGEL WILLIAMSON



Joan Baez has launched one of the most convincing musical renaissances of recent years

Not quite double trouble

BLUES

Chris Smither/ Kelly Joe Phelps Watermans, Brentford

IT SEEMED a good idea at the time to have two acoustic bluesmen on the same bill. But there was always the danger that without the necessary contrasts the evening would have lapsed into a self-indulgent musical history lesson. And at first sight the attentive and quiet seated audience looked as though it expected a lecture on the perils of drink rather than a funpacked evening.

But the promoters got away with it just. It may not have been a riotous night's entertainment, but it proved that nearly 70 years after the era of Blind Lemon Jefferson, acoustic blues

still has a lot going for it. Kelly Joe Phelps was the more introspective of the two. He played sitting down for most of his set, with his guitar on his lap and the slide in his left hand, ready to pounce on the strings. His influences appeared to be a mix-

ture in equal parts of early blues and early country with a dash of Ry Cooder and J.J. Cale for seasoning. The music ianship was superb, haunting Hawaiian-like slide with notes left hovering in the air and clean, almost clinical, finger-picking that could turn an old standard like Goodnight Irene into something new. But the vocals, sombre and understated, seemed at times to lack the emotion or colour necessary to get the listener really involved.

Such a criticism could not be levelled at Chris Smither, a Jaconic Stephen Fry lookalike, who showed a nice line in witty, self-composed songs, such as Small Revelations, the title track from his new album on Hightone, and Winsome Smile, a number based on the advice he was once offered in fortune cookie: "Let your winsome smile be your protection.

He was also ready to vary the tempo at times with a different and effective version of Robert Johnson's Dust My Broom and an energetic combination of Big Boss Man and High Heel Sneakers. It wasn't all blues, either, with Jesse Winchester's Thanks To You showing his debt to folk-rock.

He also made up for the lack of bass and drums with some heavily miked and energetic foot-tapping. The immediate comparison was with Stephen Bruton, another performer who dips his foot into the blues, rather than immersing himself fully. And there was enough variety - and light and shade to make it an evening of good blues rather than duli greys.

JOHN CLARKE

A sound easy on the eye

JAZZ Candy Duffer

Oueen Elizabeth Hall CLASSICAL music has Vanessa-Mae, while the sweaty world of jazz-funk has the backbeat of Candy Dulfer, a blue-eyed blonde saxophonist from Holland who looks rather like Kylie

Minogue with added curves and who has a weakness for coy song titles along the lines of Saxy Mood. Put the double-entendres to one side, however, and you are left with a

solid, unpretentious musician, well versed in the peppery riffing technique of altoist David Sanborn. More than enough potential, in other words, to have attracted the interest of Prince, Van Morrison, Dave Stewart and other pop luminaries in their various musical enterprises. Jazz purists tend to be sniffy about

this sort of thing, but Dulfer's brisk dance hooks belong to a good-time tradition that goes back at least as far as Louis Jordan's Jump bands. She may not be breaking new stylistic ground, nor plumbing the existential

depths, but there is nothing wrong with leafing through the musical equivalent of a Dick Francis thriller every now and then. Nevertheless, after about an hour of

her South Bank concert it became apparent that Dulfer, for all her glamorous looks, is a little lacking in charisma. The impersonal ambience of the QEH certainly did not help her cause, but ske could learn a lot about the art of stirring up an audience from her fellow saxophonist, the ex-James Brown sideman Maceo Parker (who is, incidentally, due in town next

Much of the burden fell on the singer Berget Lewis, who delivered soul-gospel melismas with precision but without much sense of cooptage ity. Although Dulfer joined in on the vocals from time to time, she never looked entirely comfortable in that role.

Still, most of her seven-piece band's uptempo instrumentals displayed more suap and muscle than is to be found on the air-brushed recordings. A snippet of Miles Davis's So What was crisply inserted into the proceed-ings, while the highlight of the ballads was a lush reading of the Isley Brothers hit For the Love of You. Echoes of Ernie Isley's molten lines

recurred elsewhere in the solos from Dulfer's lead guitarist. Even Isley's epic tastes, though, would never have extended to the crushingly duli and longwinded effort inflicted on us shortly before the close.

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His Lordship acknowledged that

there was at best an imperfect logic

in confining the tort to the already established categories of proceed-ings. But to extend its operation as

far as would be necessary to encompass the plaintiff's claim.

that is, to the proceedings even of ribunals exercising functions equivalent to those of established courts and to which, therefore, the

doctrine of absolute privilege app-lied, would extend the tort well

beyond anything suggested by any of the decided cases in the field.

authorities provide no support for the view that malicious prosecu-

tion extended that far, but the language used in many of the judgments suggested an altogether narrower scope. Time and again

the cases referred to "setting the law in motion" and to "legal proceedings", by which was meant apparently proceedings in courts

Although Mr Lissack suggested

Indeed, not merely did the

Court of Appeal

[†] Limit to categories of malicious prosecution

Gregory v Portsmouth City including an allegation that the

MANUAL NEW LANGER 26 1997

20,000

personal state of the s

 $f_{\alpha}=(-1,2,2,\ldots,n)$

Before Lord Justice Simon Brown, Lord Justice Schiemann and Lord Justice Robert Walker

[Judgment November 5] The tort of malicious prosecution probably did not extend beyond the already established categories of most but not all criminal proceedings and civil insolvency proceedings, and it definitely did not include disciplinary proceed-ings instituted by a local authority

against one of its councillors.

The Court of Appeal so stated by a majority (Lord Justice Schiemann dissenting) dismissing an appeal by the plaintiff, Terence Payment Concerns from Raymond Gregory, from the de-cision of Mr Justice Tudor Evans dated May 27, 1993 striking out his claim for damages for malicious prosecution against the defendants, Portsmouth City Council.
In 1983 the plaintiff was elected a Conservative member of Ports-mouth City Council. In 1988 the administrative subcommittee of the council's policy and resources committee investigated allegations that the plaintiff, among other councillors, had acted in breach of the previous National Code of Local Government Conduct (Doi: Circular 94/75) (now annexed to Dof Circular 94/75) (now annexed to Dof Circular 94/75) income and makes DoE Circular 8/90 issued under section 31(1) of the Local Govern-ment and Housing Act 1989),

plaintiff and two other councillors had abused their positions as councillors by using inside knowledge to buy property cheaply and then to sell it at a profit.

The subcomminee found some of the allegations to be proved and recommended that the plaintiff be removed from the various committees of which he was a member. The council then appointed a special committee to approve, reject, vary or amend the recommendations of the subcommittee.

The special committee found a number of breaches of the code proved and ordered that the plainiff be removed from all his council offices and the committees of which he was a member. On the plaintiff's application for

judicial review the Divisional Court (R v Portsmouth City Courcil. Ex parte Gregory (The Times March 12, 1990; (1990) 2 Admin LR 681)) held that the subcommittee osil) held that the subcommittee was acting ultra vires when it made its findings and recommendations, and that the proceedings before the special committee were vitated from the outset because the committee was convened on the basis that the

Mr Richard Lissack, QC, for the

plaintiff; Mr John Cavanagh for

LORD JUSTICE SIMON BROWN said that the question raised by the appeal concerned the scope of the common law tort of malicious prosecution, in particutar, whether such an action could arise out of disciplinary proceedings instituted by a local authority against one of its councillors. The only types of proceedings which hitherto had been clearly

established on the authorities to ground claims for malicious rosecution were first, most but of all criminal proceedings, and not all criminal proceedings, and second, civil insolvency proceedings, that is, the malicious presentation of petitions whether for winding up or for bankruptcy.

The plaintiff submitted that there could be no basis in logic or protecting the text are principle for restricting the text are principle for restricting the tort as narrowly that; Mr Cavanagh's central argument for the council were necessarily fixed by reference

to the principles respectively of abuse of process and of immunity from suit for anything said in court. Because, he submitted, the concept of abuse of process could apply only to proceedings in a court of law, and because immunity from suit was lost in such circumstances, the tort of manot possibly be regarded as a judicial authority.
In summary, his Lordship had

reached the conclusion that the tori of malicious prosecution probably did not extend beyond the already established caregories of civil and criminal proceedings, and cer-tainly not as far as the proceedings of bodies like the committees of the local authority who were not merely not courts of law but were not even tribunals exercising functions equivalent to courts.

One could perhaps see a public policy argument for extending the tort to embrace proceedings in the latter, covered as they were by absolute immunity. But his Lord-ship was by no means persuaded even of that, let alone of the rability of a further extension still to cover the present case.

The tort had certain curious

features, particularly in the civil sphere, even as it presently op-erated and it might be doubted whether after all those years the courts should react creatively to proposals for its extension in any way whatever. Lord Justice Schiemann deliv-

that the council's committees were clothed with judicial authority to decide the allegations brought against the plaintiff and then to discipline him, his Lordship ered a dissenting judgment and Lord Justice Robert Walker delivered a judgment agreeing Lord Justice Simon Brown. Solicitors: Wilkinson & Co. Southsea; Mr Barry S. Smith,

on them by the council under section 80 of the Environmental

Mr Toby Davey for the council;

MR JUSTICE OWEN said that

the council had served on the respondents abatement notices

under section 30 of the 1990 Act.

concerning a wall owned by them

which was in imminent danger of

The notices required the respon-

dents to abate the stantory nui-sance caused by the wall but did not specify what works were considered necessary.

The question was whether the

1990 Act intended to perpetuate the

interpretation that the courts had

put on the Public Health Act 1875,

which was that an order which

required a person to take steps to

abate a missance had to specify those steps: see R v Wheatley [(1885) 16 QB 34) and Millard v Wastall

([1898] I QB 342). His Lordship fully agreed with

Court in Sterling Homes (Mid-lands) Ltd v Birmingham City Council (1996) Env LR 121) which

had answered that question in the

An abatement notice had to

inform its recipient of what was

wrong so he knew what was

wrong. It also had to ensure that he

knew what he had to do to abate

end the nuisance, rather than cease

causing the nuisance. It could be

necessary to specify those steps to

not specified any such steps, they had been invalid.

concurring judgment.

In cases where the person was rired to take positive steps to

Protection Act 1990 were valid.

Those committees were, in his lordship's judgment, clearly discharging no more than an administrative function, albeit under a duty to act fairly and could

Characteristics defining social groups for asylum

for the Home Department Before Lord Justice Hubbouse. Lord Justice Pill and Lord Justice

Dudgment November 7

The eiusdem generis principle was an aid to construction of the phrase "membership of a particular social group" in article IA(2) of the Convention and Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees (1951) (Cmd 9171) and (1967) (Crund 3906) for the purpose of determining whether an applicant for asylum had established refugee status.

The characteristic which defined the social group had to be one which the members should not be required to change because it was so fundamental to their individual identities or conscience. Accordingly, people linked only by a common employment, such as Algerian government employed midwives, would not ordinarily constitute members of a particular social group within the meaning of

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment allowing an appeal by the Secretary of State for Home Department against the decision of an immigration appeal the applicant, Haisa Ouanes, qualified for asylum because she was a member of a particular social group, namely. Algerian government employed midwives.

The appeal tribunal had reversed a decision of a special adjudicator upholding the sec-retary of state's decision that the applicant did not qualify for asylum.

Article IA of the Convention provides: "The term 'refugee' shall apply to any person who . . . (2) owing to well founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race. religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the

country of his nationality and is unable, or owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country..." Mr Ian Burnett for the secretary of state; Mr Charles Bloomer for

LORD JUSTICE PILL said that

citizen who in 1992 was employed by the Algerian Ministry of Health as a midwife In November 1994 she came to the United Kingdom for a holiday and in January 1995 she submitted an application for

asylum.

The appeal tribunal had in effect found that the applicant was a member of a particular social group, within the meaning of article IA(2), defined by reference to the duties which the members had to perform on behalf of their

employer.
One of those duties, and one essential to continued employment as a midwife, was to provide founded fear of persecution arose posed to that duty being performed and the authorities were unable to provide protection for her. Mr Burnett submitted that the

expression "particular social group" did not cover groups of employees sharing a common employer or a common employ-ment or both in combination. He relied on propositions (1) and (2) in R v Secretary of State for the

Home Department v Savchenkov ([1996] Imm AR 28), not disputed in R v Immigration Appeal Tribunal, Ex parte Shah. (The Times October 13, 1997).

Savchenkov proposition (3) stated that the Convention reasons

(race, religion, nationality and political opinion) reflected a civil or political status; and that "member-ship of a particular social group" should be interpreted etusdem generis. After consideration in Quijano s

Secretary of State for the Home Department (1997) Imm AR 227), proposition (3) was reformulated in Shah's case.

But the point at issue in Shah's case was the degree of cohesive-ness required for a particular social group to exist. In the present case the members of the group claimed to exist did have obvious links and common interests and the issue was a different one, namely, whether those common links of employment and interest

False accounting in housing

(3) might have been stated too form in the propositions of coun-sel, the ciusdem generic principle did have a part to play in the present context and for the reasons given in *In re Acosta (*11985) 19

& N 2111 The eiusdem generis principle was not a rigid rule but an aid to the links required to constitute people as a "particular social group" had to be considered in the content of the Convention and

The characteristic that defined the social group in structuous such as the present, had to be one that the members should not be required to change because it was fundamental to their individual dentities or conscience.

The Supreme Court of Canada in Attorney-General of Canada v Ward ((1993) 103 DLR (4th)); cited v Secretary of State for the Home Department (The Times March 7, 1997, [1997] | WLR 1107), referred aprly to "groups whose members voluntarily associate for reasons so nity that they should not be forced n lorsake the association".

Shared duties in midwifery did not come within that principle. The expression "particular social group" did not ordinarily cover a body of people linked only by the work they did. A common employ-ment did not ordinarily have that impact upon individual identities or conscience necessary to constitute a particular social group within the meaning of the

His Lordship accepted the possibility that fellow employees might constitute a particular social group if by reason of the nature of their employment, or the addition of other links to those of employment, the above principle applied. Employment as a member of a religious order could be an example.

Lard Justice Hobbause and Lord Justice Mummery agraed. Solicitors: Treasury Solicitor:

Remedy for excessive seizure of material

Regina v Chief Constable for Warwickshire and Others, Ex parte F and Others Before Lord Justice Rose and Mr

Judgment October II Where an individual complained of excessive seizure of material pursuant to a search warrant by the police he should generally proceed by way of private law remedy rather than by judicial

The Queen's Bench Divisional application in part by several applicants for judicial review of the issue of various search warrants by Learnington Spa Magistrates Court on April 11, 1997 and April 15, 1997 authorising police officers to search premises which were the homes of some of some of the applicants, their business premises and a document store.

Mr Timothy Barnes, QC and Mr Collingwood Thompson for the applicants: Mr Timothy King. QC and Mr Graham Wells for the MR JUSTICE JOWITT said that

the applicants were suspected by the police of conspiracy to defraud. Seven search warrants were issued giving the police wide powers to seize information stored on computers and computer equipment, paper, diaries, appointment books and banking documentation relating to the alleged conspiracy.

200

alla, that the warrants were too wide in scope and did not suf-ficiently identify the articles to be sought. His Lordship found that the warrants were lawful and that with one exception there had not been excessive seizure by the

review was not a fact finding exercise and was an extremely unsatisfactory tool by which to determine, in any but the clearest cases, whether there had been a

A person who complained of

in a private law action could grant interlocutory relief on a speedy basis so that in all but the cleares cases, of a breach of section 168 judicial review had only disadvantages and no advantages when compared with the private

:~Lord Justice Rose agreed.

ough Council v Field and Officers Justice Owen and Mr Justice Gage Dudgment October 31) Where an abatement notice re-

His Lordship noted that judicial sizure of material not permitted by a search warrant.

ive seizure under section 10(8) of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 should not, save in such cases, seek his remedy by way of judicial review but should wey of junious review but should rely on his private law remedy when he would have a tribunal which would be able to hear evidence and make findings unfertered by Wednesbury principles of reasonableness ([1946] I KB 223).

nuisance must be specific Kirklees Metropolitan Bor-ough Conneil v Field and constituted three-judge court to decide the issue once and for all, when dismissing in a reserved judgment an appeal by Kirklees Metropolitan Borough Council by way of case stated against the

decision of Bradford Crown Court

Notice requiring works to abate

quired a person to carry out works thadge Hoffmann and justices) of November 9, 1995 to allow the appeals of Celia Field, Anne Thackray, Peter Marsh and Leslie to abate a nuisance, that notice had to ensure that the person knew what works had to be done and had to specify those works if there Wilson against the decision of Hudderstield Justices of April 28, The Queen's Bench Divisional

No right of appeal

Maile v Manchester City

A litigant had no right of appeal to the Court of Appeal from a High Court judge's final decision on a case stated under section III of the Magistrates' Court Art 1980. The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Hutchison and Lord Justice Thorpe) so held on October 16

when refusing to entertain an appeal by Mr Christopher Malle from the dismissal by Mr Justice Laws on March 20, 1997, of his appeal by way of case stated from a decision of Mr James Prowse, acting supendiary magistrate, in relation to an application by Manchester City Council under section 116 of the Highways Act 1980 to stop up a number of footpaths at New Bank Street Estate, Longsight.

LORD JUSTICE HUTCHISON said that it was clear that the effect 28A, as inserted by the Statute Law (Repeals) Act 1993, of the Supreme Court Act 1981 was to prohibit any appeal from the judge's decision in relation both to findings of fact and

Mr Maile was unable to advert the difficulty imposed on him by those sections by relying on para-graph 59/1/26 of The Supreme Court Practice 1977, on rights of appeal on questions of law, or on Order 14A, rule I of the Rules of the Supreme Court, on determination of questions of law or construction.

of the provisions of section 18 and

benefit claim form

Osinuga v Director of Public Before Lord Justice Kennedy and Mrs Justice Smith

Budgment October 211 A housing benefit claim form was a document used for accounting purposes; therefore false informa tion in such a form could constitute under section 17 of the Theft Act

Court so held when dismissing the appeal of Adesola Osinuga by case Barkingside Justices on January 8, 1997 of false accounting contrary to section 17(1)(b) of the 1968 Act.

Mr Justice Gage agreed and Lord Justice Brooke delivered a Mr Stephen Fidler, solicitor, for the appellant; Mr John McGuinness for the prosecution. Solicitors: Mr John Emms, Huddersfield; Eaton Smith & Downey, Huddersfield. LORD JUSTICE KENNEDY said that three payments of hous-ing benefit had been paid to Mr

he was not entitled to it as he had failed to reveal his employment as The housing benefit form re-

Osinuga before it was realised that

quired information about the applicant's name, address, his income, gross and net, rent paid At the foot of the form where the

Mr Fidler submitted that the housing benefit form was a document used to adjudicate or determine whether a claimant was entitled to housing benefit but not

to make any calculation of housing benefit and was not a document used for accounting purposes. However, evidence given by an officer of Redbridge Lindon Borough showed that the completed

housing benefit form in reality

used to calculate housing benefit and was therefore a document used for accounting purposes. His Lurdship referred to Attor-

ney-General's Reference (No. 1 of 1980) ([198] | WLR 34, 38) in which whether a dishonestly completed personal loan proposal form was a At the four of the form where the applicant signed was a warning that a prosecution could follow if words of Lord Lane. Lord Chief

"It does not seem to us that the moment at which any duty to account arose had any relevance to the question of whether the document was or was not required for

an accounting purpose. That was precisely the facts of

the present case. Mrs Justice Smith agreed.

Solicitory: Stephen Faller & Cn; Crown Prosecution Service.

European Law Report

Luxembourg

Choosing which court hears the case

Von Horn v Cinnamond Case C-163/95

Before H. Ragnemalm, President of Chamber and Judges G. F. Mancini, P. J. G. Kapteyn, J. L. Murray and G. Hirsch Advocate General F. G. Jacobs

(Oninion May 16, 1996)

Lludement October 91 Where proceedings involving the same parties and cause of action were commenced in two contract-Brussels Convention came into force between those states and the second after that date, the court second seised had to decline jurisdiction under article 21 of the Convention if the court first seised had assumed jurisdiction on the basis of a rule according with the jurisdiction provisions of the Brussels Convention or other conven-

The Sixth Chamber of the Court of Justice of the European Communities so held on a reference by the House of Lords for a preliminary ruling pursuant to the protocol of June 3, 1971 on the interpretation by the Court of Justice of the Brussels Convention of September 27, 1968 on Jurisdiction and the Enforcement of Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters.

when the proceedings were

The question referred concerned the interpretation of: (i) article 21 of the Convention as amended by the Convention of October 9, 1978 on the accession of Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom (amended text in OJ 1978 L304 p77). the Convention of October 25, 1982 on the accession of Greece (OJ 1982) L388 pl) and the Convention of May 26, 1989 on the accession of Spain and Portugal ("the San Sebasuan Convention") (OJ 1989 L285 pl), and (ii) article 29 of the San Sebastian Convention

In August 1991 Mr Cinnamond, domiciled in the United Kingdom. brought proceedings in Portugal owe Freifrau von Horn, domiciled in Portugal, a sum claimed by her as payment for the sale of shares in a property company.

In November 1992 Freifrau von Horn issued a writ in the High Court for payment of a sum as the damages. Mr Cinnamond issued a summons for a declaration that the English court lacked jurisdiction. The matter proceeded to the House of Lords, whose question to the European Court concerned whether, in the circumstances, the

second set of proceedings should Article 21 of the Brussels Convention as amended provides: Where proceedings involsame cause of action and between the same parties are brought in the courts of different contracting states, any court other than the court first seised shall of its own motion stay its proceedings until such time as the jurisdiction of the

court first seised is established. Where the jurisdiction of the court first seised is established. any court other than the court first seised shall decline jurisidiction in favour of that court Article 29 of the San Sebastian

Convention provides: "(1) The 1968 Convention ... as amended ... shall apply only to legal proceedings instituted ... after the entry into force of this Convention in the state of origin and, where recognition or enforcement of a judgment ... is sought, in the state addressed, "(2) However, judgments given after the date of entry into force of

this Convention between the state of origin and the state addressed in proceedings instituted before that date shall be recognised and 1968 Convention, as amended . . . if jurisdiction was founded upon rules which accorded with the provisions of Title 11 of the 1968 Convention, as amended, or with the provisions of a convention which was in force between the state of origin and the state addressed when the proceedings

ber of the Court of Justice held: The San Sebastian Convention entered into force between Portugal and the United Kingdom on July 1, 1992 The rule which governed the

remporal application of article 21 of the Brussels Convention was therefore that laid down in article 29(1) of the San Sebastian

However that provision did not allow it to be determined with certainty whether article 21 applied where the first proceedings

brought in a contracting state before the dute of entry into force of the San Sebastian Convention and the second proceedings were brought in another contracting state after that date, or whether both sets of proceedings must have

been brought after the entry into

force of the San Sebastian Convention. Both Interpretations were capuble of leading to consequences which were unsatisfactory and contrary to the aims of the Brussels Convention, in particular to facili-tate reciprocal recognition and enforcement of judgments and to strengthen the legal protection of persons established in the Community.

The view that article 21 applied where the second proceedings had been brought after the date of entry into force of the San Sebastian Convention, even if the first action was commenced before that date, could in certain circumstances make it impossible for the parties to the proceedings to obtain a judgment enforceable in the state where the second proceedings took

The alternative view would lead to the two sets of proceedings continuing in the two states, pos-sibly resulting in the delivery of two irreconcilable judgments, nei-ther of which could be recognised in the other state.

In those circumstances it was essential to interpret article 29(1) in the light of the structure and aims of the two Conventions. The Court then stated the way in

which that article was to be interpreted, as set out in the operative part below. The Court's conclusion did mean that a court of a contracting state

would review the jurisdiction of a court of another contracting state outside the cases expressly listed in articles 28 and 34 of the Brussels Convention, even though, as the court held in Case C-351/89 Overseas Union Insurance Ltd v New Hampshire Insurance Co (1491) ECR 1-3317, paragraph 24), the Convention did not authorise such a review apart from those limited

However, an exception to that principle appeared justified in the

The court second seised must restrict itself to determining

court first seised accorded with the rules of the Brussels Convention. or a convention concluded between the two states, which were common to both courts and could be interpreted with equal authority by the courts of both states.

In the particular case where the jurisdiction of the court first seised derived, in accordance with article 4 of the Brussels Convention, from the law of the state of that court. which would thus undeniably be better placed to rule on the question of its own jurisdiction, the court second seized should restrict itself to ascertaining whether the conditions for the application of that provision were satisfied, namely that the plaintiff was domiciled in a contracting state and the defendant was not domi-

ciled in such a state. In no case could the court second court first seised in the light of the law of the state of that court.

For the reasons stated by it the European Court ruled: Article 39(1) of the San Sebastian

as meaning that where proceed-ings involving the same cause of action and between the same parties were pending in two different contracting states, the first proceedings having been brought the Brussels Convention between proceedings after that date, the court second seised must apply article 21 of the latter Convention the court first seised had assumed jurisdiction on the basis of a rule which accorded with the provisions of Title II of that Convention or with the provisions of a convention which was in force between the two states concerned when the proceedings were instituted, and must do so provisionally if the court first seised had not yet ruled on whether it had jurisdiction.

On the other hand, the court second seised must not apply article 21 of the Brussels Convention if the court first seised had assumed jurisdiction on the basis of a rule which did not accord with the provisions of Title 11 of that Convention or with the provisions of a convention which was in force

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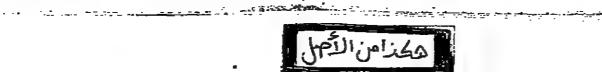
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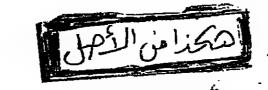
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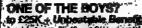
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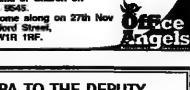
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There is an alternative, though. In Word choose Insert/Object/Create From File and tick the "Link to File" option. Type in the full path to the PowerPoint slide, or use the "Browse" button to find it, click OK and then OK again to insert the file and close the dialog box. Your PowerPoint presentation will now be included inside your Word document and update as the original changes. You can use the same method in Access and Excel.

CHRIS WARD

Take a letter, Mr Smith . . . Jennai Cox looks at how more men are returning to their historical role as secretaries

Office secs change

ecretaries were once nothing but male; at the start of the century it was a highlyregarded and prestigious vocation for young men. When the men went to war, women filled their roles and have stayed there ever since. But men are making a slow but sure comeback.

Technology, a changing job market and an increasing number of female executives all play a part in the re-emergence of the male PA as the line between traditionally male and female jobs dissolves and the secretarial role expands.

For the first time since Queen's Business and Secretarial College was founded 70 years ago, a third of those attending its six-week secretarial skills course this autumn were men. With about 80 per cent of all jobs now requiring keyboard skills, men are at last waking up to the fact that fast typing and competence with computers are as important for them as for women, says Corinne Bickford, the principal of Queen's in

South Kensington, London. "A lot of girls do courses to capitalise on their degrees and get into the job market, and there is no reason why boys shouldn't, too," she says. Many know how to play games on computers, but few can type efficiently or write a coherent business letter.

William Fox-Robinson, 18, enrolled on a three-month course at Queen's. Apart from being attracted

job prospects before going to Leeds University next year. "I've been told by employment agencies that having these skills is a good way of getting into a business," he says. "I'd recommend it to anyone."

According to a study for the Rowntree Foundation last year, men will have to start considering jobs that until recently have more commonly been done by women. Being a secretary is one of them. A quarter of all Office Angels agency's temps are men - up 10 per cent on last year and expected to rise to 35 per cent by 2002.

The idea that secretarial work is a 'job for the girls' died, but our figures show that perceptions are definitely changing," says Laurence Rosen, chairman and chief executive of Office Angels.

The 60 per cent increase in the number of female executives during the past four years could also explain the rise in the number of male PAs. According to Lisa Kelly, managing director of Meridian Recruitment, they are often seen as the answer to a difficult female boss. "Invariably women in high positions are used to getting their own way and a man is more tolerant of moods and stroppiness than another woman." she says. "The men know how to charm them."

But the increase in men in secretarial roles is still slow, largely

to the idea of being the only boy in a class of 60, he wanted to improve his with women and the reluctance of with women and the reluctance of many recruitment agencies to register men. There is a great lack of understanding among men about secretarial work." Ms Kelly says. "We tell them unless they are prepared to roll up their sleeves and do anything they will find it hard to get a job."

Clare Taylor, placements manager at St Aidates college in Oxford, tells her students to look beyond the job title and realise what a fantastic opportunity a secretarial job could be. 'The word secretary disguises what can be achieved," she says. Many companies are now using

the altered role. Reed Employment says it puts forward the most suitable candidate for a job, whatever their sex. More than a third of the secretaries placed by its Welwyn Garden City office in north London are men, and once they have had a chance to prove their ability, they are often asked

Reza Mahmood, a 23-year-old graduate, says although he found working as a secretary for British Aerospace odd at first, his experience has been invaluable: "I feel involved and that I've made a contribution to help the business to run smoothly. I've got a feel for senior management and learnt how to communicate more effectively." Taking a job as a secretary in



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Adrie van der Luijt: "Ali the evidence suggests we are just as good as women, sometimes even better"

Roche, the pharmaceuticals company, was the best career move Anthony Fuller has made. The 26year-old Oxford graduate says: "I've worked for a variety of companies and it makes you more adaptable, which is useful in today's flexible job

market. While many companies welcome male secretaries, some more oldfashloned professions would not even contemplate hiring one. So men wanting to try secretarial work can still face discrimination. Half of the complaints received by the Equal Opportunities Commission last year were from men, many about being denied access to secre-

Adrie van der Luijt, 30, who has

been a secretary for eight years and was nominated for the 1994 National Secretary of the Year, says men do still face a battle. "The issue of men as secretaries needs to be set firmly on the agenda. It isn't even considered an option for boys at school, yet all the evidence suggests we are just as good as women,

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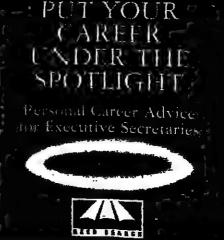


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BY MAKING Brian Lara their captain for next season, Warwickshire have entered territory where West Indies evidently fear to tread. They have traded loyalty, continuity and, perhaps, even harmony for a brief flirtation with one of the most volatile characters in

Warwickshire are the seventh county to change their captain during this turbulent close-season but, unlike elsewhere, this is an investment in high risk and limited returns. Lara's appointment will be for one season only.

The move will have ramifications far beyond Edgbaston. In Lara's native Trinidad yesterday, the news was acclaimed as an indepen-dent endorsement of qualities the West Indies authorities are notably reluctant to embrace. Oddly, the prospects of Lara captaining his national side against England in the new year have risen accordingly.
With his moody nature and

regular indiscipline sitting uncomfortably alongside his ability to charm and articulate and his undeniable batting genius, Lara has always polarised opinion, even in his homeland. Only last month, the West Indies selectors nominated him as captain for the tour of Pakistan, but the appointment was vetoed by the Board of Control. Since this became public.

without an explanation from the board. West Indian support has been divided between Lara and Courtney Walsh, the incumbent leader. Bad feeling between the pair was exemplified before a recent match between Trinidad and Jamaica, when Walsh sent out his vice-captain for the toss with While most in the Caribbe-

an feel that Lara has been kept waiting too long for the accession, he has frequently demonstrated the reasons through brushes with the code of conduct. With the team struggling, a change seems certain, but the first Test against





Cricket Commentary

England is in Jamaica, home to Walsh and Pat Rousseau, the board president. Controversy is guaranteed.

Lara's captaincy ambitions have long been plain and it may be that he sees the Warwickshire job as another lever to the higher honour. The circumstances of the appointment giving rise to a theory that Lara held the county to ransom by threatening that he would not return as a player without the captaincy.

The club strenuously denied this yesterday. "It evolved gradually with Brian." Dennis Amiss, the chief executive, said. "He made his interest in the job known to us and we discussed it thoroughly in



Lara: volatile character

he say he would only come

Amiss has remained a staunch supporter of Lara and it was his initiative to hure him back to Warwickshire for a season in which Alian Don-ald, their long-term overseas player, will be engaged with South Africa. "Brian has never tried to insist on anything longer than a year," Amiss said. "We still hope Allan will be back in 1999."

While Amiss emphasised that the cricket committee was manimous in nominating Lara, there is a hint that the full committee contained some be doves and hawks in such a matter," Amiss conceded, "but

it did not go to a vote."

Defending the one-year term, Amiss said: "He is the right man for the moment. We have always been aware of Brian's tactical awareness. He can help bring along some of our younger players." And on the much-publicised incidents between Lara and Dermot Reeve, then captain, in 1994?
"There was a clash but we got over it, we got past it. We won three trophies that summer and we will never forget his part in that."

ft could be said, however, that in their anxiety to conclude a deal with Lara, Warwickshire have conveniently forgotten the longer-term input of Tim Munton, the man he replaces. Loyal and philosophical. Munton is an uncomplaining type, but there was no doubting his sense of dismay when the news was broken to him before the committee meeting last Monday evening.

Munton, who missed last eason with a back injury. believed that he had been given until Christmas to prove his litness for next summer. Last Friday, he received a positive report from his specialist in Nottingham. He was unaware that, simultaneously, the cricket committee was resolving that he should go.



Atherton relishes new challenge

LOOKING at him yesterday, it was hard to believe that less than three months ago Michael Atherton was on the verge of giving up the England captaincy. There he was, talking about the tour of the West Indies as though the thought had never crossed his

Atherton could even smile at the memory of what happened the last time he was there, when, in the first Test in Jamaica, Courtney Walsh subjected him to one of the most savage spells of fast bowling ever seen. It says much for his state of mind that Atherton is relishing the prospect of going through it all again.

"It [the captaincy issue] is old hat now," Atherton said, preferring to look forward rather than back, "but yes, I am pleased that I decided to carry on. I am relaxed, refreshed, fit, working hard and looking forward to the tour."

His mood may have had something to do with the fact that it had just been amounced that his benefit last season raised £307.000 but, in all seriousness. Atherton's wellbeing is crucial to England's chances of winning their first series in the Caribbean since Colin By PAT GIBSON

Cowdrey led his side to a 1-0 triumph 30

years ago.
West Indies invariably target the captain in the belief that if they can undermine him, his team will crumble - and Atherton looked a vulnerable figure at the end of the Ashes series last summer. Since then, however, he has cleared his mind, been to England's training camp in Lanzarote and embarked on a series of concentrated net sessions with Graham Gooch at Old Trafford

These sessions, he insisted, had nothing to do with his form last season, when he scored only 257 runs in 12 Test innings against Australia. With the West Indies tour starting after Christmas, he was simply taking an opportunity that comes along only once every four years to work at his game.

There are obviously one or two things that I am working on, but I don't want to broadcast them," he said. "Over a period of time things creep into your game, so you want to get back to basics, but you also want to tailor the sessions reasonably specifically to what you'll be West Indies, I know what I'm in for and I am preparing for it. It's the biggest challenge there is."

He rose to the challenge last time. withstanding Walsh's assault to make two centuries and average 56 in the series, and he clearly believes that he can again be an inspiration to a squad that includes nine of the players who were with him then. "When I look back, I was obviously

very green." Atherton said, "but I have learnt masses of things since then and I'll be a lot better prepared to handle whatever comes along this time. "I fully expect us to go out there and

perform well and win. Whatever is happening to the West Indies in Pakistan, they will be a different side at home, but while we will respect them, we firmly believe we can beat them." In the meantime, Atherton will be taking a holiday while Adam Hollioake

leads England in a limited-overs tournament in Sharjah. That does not mean that Atherton has lost his enthusiasm for the one-day game, though. "I am still very keen to play one-day international cricket," he said.

Shoaib to win cap as Waqar returns

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

PAKISTAN yesterday recalled Waqar Younis for the second Test match against West Indies, which starts in Rawalpindi on Saturday, Waqar. who has taken 23! wickets in 46 Tests, was left out of the side that won the opening Test by an innings and 19 runs at Peshawar last week.

Shoaib Akhtar, who is uncapped, has also been included to strengthen the pace attack on a pitch that promises to be greener and pouncier than the one used in Peshawar. Shahid Nazir and Arshad Khan, who made his debut at Peshawar, have been left out.

West Indies' match against Habib Bank in Hyderabad already reduced from three days to one because of their complaints about hotel accommodation - was washed out yesterday.

India have left out Debashish Mohanty for the second Test of their threemarch series against Sri Lanka, which starts in Nagpur today. He will be replaced by Venkatash Prasad, the seam bowler, or Nilesh Kulkarni, a spinner. The first match in Mohali ended in a draw.

Javagal Srinath and his new-ball partner, Abey Kuruvilla, who trock six wickets at Mohali, have been handicapped by the lack of support from Anil Kumble, the leg spinner, who was dropped for a one-day series against Paki-stan after a poor tour of Sri Lanka. He went without a wicket on the wearing wicket in the second innings at

India selectors have indicated that unless Kumble strikes form in the second Test, the promising leg spinner. Sairaj Bahutule, may be given his debut on his home ground of Bombay for the final Test.

An unbeaten century by Daryll Cullinan took South Africa to a 31-run win over the Australian Cricket Board Chairman's XI in the opening match of their tour at Lilac Hill in Perth. yesterday.

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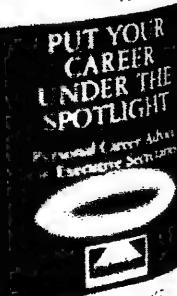
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GOLF: WAY AND SHERRY AMONG CASUALTIES AS RAIN DISRUPTS EUROPEAN TOUR QUALIFYING SCHOOL

Second cut the deepest for Britons

IN SOTOGRANDE

IT WAS a clever marketing ploy to name the Costa del Sol the "Costa del Golf" in time for the thousands of spectators who attended the Ryder Cup two months ago to notice it as they drove along the road from Malaga to Cadiz. It was ironic, then, that in September. torrential rain and thunderstorms disrupted the competition, and it has been infuriating that rain has fallen almost every day for the past week on this supposedly sun-drenched coast of Spain.

Southern Spain, the home of thousands of leathery Scandinavians, Germans and Britons, was a dank, desolate place yesterday. Half an inch of rain fell in five hours, bringing further complications to the European Tour qualify-ing school, which has now been reduced from six to four rounds and, one hopes, will be completed today - and if not today, then tomorrow, "Costa del Confusion" would have been a more suitable

For most of yesterday morning, after the competition had initially been reduced to 90 holes, it looked as though the 72-hole guillotine would fall at three over par. The leading 75 players would then have played one more round, and the leading 40 of those would have received their card to compete on the European Tour next year. Some players pulled off considerable acts of skill and courage to get to three

Gordon Sherry, the former Walker Cup player, and Paul Way. who competed in the Ryder Cup as long ago as 1983, had only a few holes to play yesterday morning to complete their fourth rounds. It was cold, dark and windy - but



dry — when they started just before nine o'dock.

Way birdied two of his last three holes and Sherry saved his par with a deft pitch from thick greenside grass and a brave four-foot putt. They retired to the San Roque clubhouse for a welldeserved cup of coffee. Little did they know at that point how

circumstances were going to com-bine to render their determined finishes useless.

Guadalmina is on the western outskirts of Marbella. It has one of the oldest courses on this coast and a comfortable hotel overlooking the house owned by Sean Connery. It

tors were playing, and many of them were trying to finish their fourth rounds, too.

Though Guadalmina is only 25 miles along the coast, the weather there was much worse. Furthermore, the South Course is lowrain. Play was half an hour late the day at 12.20pm, when most of the course was flooded. Some players even suggested that it had been barely playable at 9am. Just after 2pm, Andy McFee, the tournament director, looked at the

sodden courses, the rain that was descending in stair rods, and reduced the sournament from five to four rounds. He sent those compensors who had completed 72. holes back to their hotels and asked those who had not to return this morning at 9am.

Those who had not finished were at the end of the field, and whatever scores they achieve this morning, their performances cannot affect the leaders. Thus, although the tournament has not officially been concluded, it is possible to say that Chris van der Velde, a 33-year-old Dutchman, who finished eight under par, was the winner, having had the lowest last round. Fredrik Henge, from Sweden, was second, Robert-Jan Derksen third, Phil Goulding fourth, Michael Camp-bell fifth and David Thomson

"I've been trying to finish my fourth round since Monday," Darren Prosser, a 28-year-old pro-fessional from Brierley Hill in the West Midlands, said. He played only two strokes on Monday before rain brought play to a halt, managed II holes yesterday and was due to return this morning to play the remaining 612 holes.

However, at least Prosser has a chance of finishing among the top 40 and getting one of those magical cards. He is three over par and needs to play the remaining holes in at least three under to do so. At three over par, Way and Sherry have no chance. For Way, the hero of the 1983 Ryder Cup in the United States, and Sherry, for whom such a bright future was promised, the

Hendry believes me Man's problems are all in his mind

PSYCHOLOGICAL or technical? That is the question. Has Stephen Hendry's poor start to the season been caused by an idiosyncracy within his one delivery or has a shortage of confidence been to

In Hendry's own mind, there is no doubt. He meets Alan McManus in the quarter-finals of the Liverpool Victoria United Kingdom championship at Preston to-night; firmly maintaining that his recent shortcomings are the result of wavering concentration. Ian Doyle, Hendry's manager, holds a different opinion. He even

requested a videotape of the play-er's 9-8 victory over Anthony Ham-ilton in the last 16 on Saturday, hoping to point out what he perceives to be a fault in Hendry's

sceptically. As highly as he values Doyle's business acumen, his view of his technical expertise was once encapsulated in the phrase: 'lan wouldn't know a snooker cue from' a bus queue."

Indeed, most observers agree that Doyle is wrong. Anyone who can compile eight century breaks during a single practice session, as Hendry did on the eve of the championship, surely cannot be striking the cue-ball inaccurately.

Hendry beat McManus 9-1 in the semi-finals of the UK championship last year, but is unlikely to enjoy an equally untroubled pas-sage this time. "I am expecting a toughie," Hendry, attempting to

win his 22nd consecutive match in the event, said. McManus has beaten Hendry on seven of their 22 meetings and on four other occasions has lost only after a deciding frame was necessary. "I've got a feeling I'm going to play well," he said. "Any match with Stephen seems to help raise my game."

Hendry is also convinced that optimum form is imminent. "I am very close to producing my best and whoever is on the receiving end of it, it will be good to watch,"

Gerard Greene ensured his first appearance in the quarter-finals of a world-ranking tournament, after four years on the professional circuit, with a 9-6 victory over Gary Ponting yesterday. The game hinged on the thirteenth frame. Trailing 69-33, with only the colours remaining. Greene might have conceded. Instead, he got two of the three snookers he required, Ponting fouled the white on his next visit and Greene went on to lead 8-5 by clearing blue, pink and black. He will meet Ronnie O'Sullivan or Gary Wilkinson.

Martin Dziewialtowski, a Glaswegian of Latvian descent, became only the third player, after Tony Knowles and McManus, to compile a century break on his television debut, in his fourth-round match against Dean Reynolds. But Reynolds employed his greater experience to build a 5-3 lead and emerge as the most likely opponent for Matthew Stevens in the last

Mitsubishi's Tommi Makinen is the 1997 World Rally Champion.

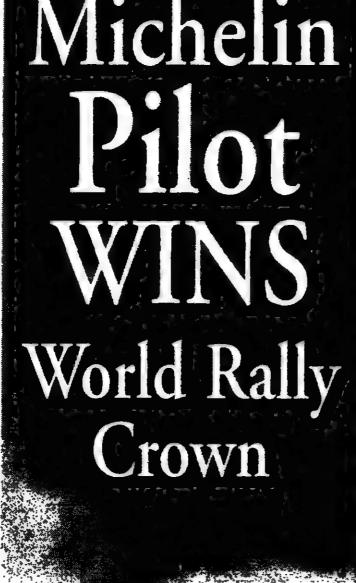
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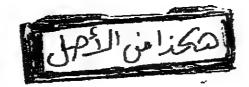
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RACING: SUSPECTED CRACKED PASTERN LEAVES MARTHA'S SON EARLY CASUALTY AT HUNTINGDON

One Man's talent shines through gloom

BY CHRIS MCGRATH

JUST as the burnished talent of One Man shone all the brighter for a dank, murky afternoon in the fens, so the crowds at Huntingdon yesterday were reminded that National Hunt's most glorious flourishes must defy the dark-

est gloom. After Martha's Son broke down badly in the early stages of the Peterborough Chase, they knew afresh the poignant conundrum of the sport. It is the awful perils conquered that define the grandeur of its triumphs.

Martha's Son was suddenly stricken after the fourth fence. Rodney Farrant immediately sensing something amiss with his mount's vulnerable nearfore. It was a tendon injury to the same leg that had thwarted Martha's Son for so long prior to his heroic comeback in the Queen Mother Champion Chase at Cheltenham in

RICHARD EVANS

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Nap: CALM DOWN (1.10 Windsor)

The well-regarded Calm Down showed pienty of prom-be but season and is expected to peligies this term. Suited the peligies this term. Suited the peligies to be can make a

NB: Eau De Cologne (3.40 Windsor)

March. Early indications were that this time the vets may be confronted by a cracked pastern - which prognosis Tim Forster, his notoriously pessimistic trainer, could indulge himself by describing as relatively "good news".

Nobody understands better than Gordon Richards the humility Forster feels regarding his magnificent charges. The winning trainer's first thoughts were of Martha's Son, whose mishap had reduced the race to a match between One Man and Viking Flagship. "May the best horse win, that's the way I like to play it," he said. "This was a day for us to find out about him, and it's very sad about Martha's Son."

It was still a rare contest for this time of the season, though Viking Flagship had all but rolled out the red carpet at of a mountain goat for Adrian

Bomber. 2.10 Easter Ross. 2.40 Who's To Say. 3.10 Shepherds Rest. 3.40 Ivor's Flutter.

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105 1-3 SRAMSHAW WOOD 17 (G) R After 5-10-12 R Grandor (3)
106 60-0 CEAR CHARGER 12 Mrs S Williams 6-10-12 R Grandor (3)
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107 PP23 (TS WALLACE 18 JC Position 4-10-12 R A REQuested 108 5- LORD OF THE RIVER 22 to Steward 5-10-12 JA McCardy (4)
108 005 WASSET THERWER 22 T O Steward 5-10-12 JA McCardy (4)
109 005 WASSET THERWER 25 T TO-812 R Grand (5)
111 2-5 STORM FORECAST 205 (SF) Mich H Keight 5-10-12 JF Tibley 112 JCD THE LAND AGENT 301 (S) J Martins 6-10-12 JF Tibley 113 30-6 TIP YOUR WATTRESS 19 B Cardy 4-10-12 R Aspect 5)
114 00-5 TOM TUGG 12 W McKrosse-Coles 7-10-12 Septim Michael (5)
115 306 MNYREDISE LAND 22 P Hebbs 4-10-7 R Tibley 115 306 MNYREDISE LAND 22 P Februs 4-10-12 R Tibley 115 306 MNYREDISE LAND 22 P Hebbs 4-10-7 R Tibley 115 306 MNYREDISE LAND 22 P Hebbs 4-10-7 R Tibley 115 306 MNYREDISE LAND 22 P Hebbs 4-10-7 R Tibley 115 306 MNYREDISE LAND 22 P Hebbs 4-10-7 R Tibley 115 306 MNYREDISE LAND 22 P Hebbs 4-10-7 R Tibley 115 306 MNYREDISE LAND 22 P Hebbs 4-10-7 R Tibley 115 306 MNYREDISE LAND 22 P Hebbs 4-10-7 R Tibley 115 306 MNYREDISE LAND 22 P Hebbs 4-10-7 R Tibley 115 306 MNYREDISE LAND 22 P Hebbs 4-10-7 R Tibley 115 306 MNYREDISE LAND 22 P Hebbs 4-10-7 R Tibley 115 306 MNYREDISE LAND 22 P Hebbs 4-10-7 R Tibley 115 306 MNYREDISE LAND 22 P Hebbs 4-10-7 R Tibley 115 306 MNYREDISE LAND 22 P Hebbs 4-10-7 R Tibley 115 306 MNYREDISE LAND 22 P Hebbs 4-10-7 R Tibley 115 306 MNYREDISE LAND 22 P Hebbs 4-10-7 R Tibley 115 306 MNYREDISE LAND 25 P Hebbs 4-10-7 R TIBLEY 115 306 MNYREDISE LAND 25 P Hebbs 4-10-7 R TIBLEY 115 306 MNYREDISE LAND 25 P HEBBS 25 TIBLEY 25 TIBLEY 25 P HEBBS 25 TIBLEY 25 T

9-2 Father Hebry, 11-2 Rosseline Wood, Stern Ferrecas, 13-2 Calon Denne, 7-1. The Land Agent, 8-1 Lord Of The River, 18-1 hCsybridge Lady, 12-1 others:

1.10 EVERETT MAMAGEMENT
HATTOMAL MUNT HOVICES HURDLE
(DW H. \$2,791: 2m 4f) (15)
201 BERONG CLEVER K Comented 8-10-12 MA Farguesia
202 PFV CASH FOR BASH 598P (6) R Rower 7-10-72 MA Farguesia
203 1-5P CASTLE ARROW 29 BL) C Manu 4-10-12 J Magne (5)
204 0.04 CATHAY 17 MA 3 Phrom 5-10-12 R Farguesia
205 50-0 DAVZAMTE 172 (7) R Strongs 5-10-12 R Farguesia
205 50-0 DAVZAMTE 172 (7) R Strongs 5-10-12 Mr R Windley (5)
207 1- MAD HARRY 200 (7) K Belley 5-10-12 Mr R Windley (5)
208 10-6 MISTER SHANN 86 (7) R CHES 4-10-12 R Farguesia
209 10-6 MISTER SHANN 186 (7) R CHES 4-10-12 D Mochin
210 105-0 PEDLAR'S CROSS 14 8 McCourt 5-10-12 D Mochin
211 12-RUPERT BUILS 137 (7) J King 5-10-12 G Baseliny
212 000-SHET LIGHTINES 285 A Carroll 5-10-72 J A McComby
213 5-TAPPERS (MAPPES) 207 0 Shavend 5-10-72 J A McComby
214 0-GESHA 285 N Baldogs 5-10-7 W Marragn215 0 MANDALAVY 17 M Madgelick 4-10-7 J Power (7)
5-2 Mad Harry, 9-2 Castley, 11-2 Micro Mass, 13-2 Report Bleen, 8-1 Tapp

5 To Michael Carlon, 11-2 Mile's Miles, 18-2 Rapad Bases, 8-1 Tapads Ampp, 16-1 Charles Hames, 14-1 Carl For Basis, Cardin Assoc, 16-1 Afres

1.40 RACING FOR LIFE MARSHAL AMPLIFICATION NOVICES HANDICAP CRASE (£3,508: 3m) (12)

MOVICES HAMDICAP CHASE (£3,508: 3m) (12)

301 53-6 COUNTRY STORE 14 (5) A P Jonne 8-13-10 — W Muraton 312 GP-2 ELYS HAMBOUR 21 G STRUCO 8-11-8 — J A McCaniny 50 303 S-P1 LALDHANG FORTAME 14 (D.F) K Balley 7-11-7 — D Mortis 305 672 RUTHYS BOY 33 (D.F.5) Mis A E Jabesco 8-17-1 R Johnson 506 13-5 LABOSA 20 (P) Mis 1. Richards 6-10-1 — P Holis 307 42-1 BKSJS 13 (5) J Ming 7-10-10 — R Reguent 508-203 VAP DEL CLIARDO 21 (D.F.) I Mis Misson 5-10-10 — R Reguent 509 49-4 MSHT FARCY 14 Mas A Woodrow 9-10-10 — G Hoogen (5) 301 49-9 MASTER NOMBER 13 R Almes 6-10-2 — R Thompson (5) 100 311 -0.0P MASTER NOMBER 13 R Almes 6-10-3 — P Honley 5 100 312 39-6 TRE HERRYDRE 6 M J Richards 8-10-3 — P Honley 6 17-1 L Rappin Forthers 7-2 Elys Horbors 5-1 Bases, 7-7 Rushy 8 by, Bask

2-1 Laughing Fortune, 7-2 Dy's Harbour, 5-1 Euros, 7-1 Rolle's Boy, Black Statement, 16-1 Viz Del Qualto, 20-1 Country Show, Master Bouster, 25-1 edises.

TRAINERS: P Chambags, 3 winners from 4 rounars, 75.0%, 0 Micholson, 18 from 61, 29.5%; P Hobbs, 22 from 81, 27.2%; M Pipe, 48 from 202, 23.8%; J Old, 8 from 35, 21.1%, P Micholle, 15 from 77, 19.5%.

19 3%. JOKEPS: A MicCoy, 27 winners from 102 rides, 25.5%; Il Dummardy, 30 from 129, 23.3%; D Bridgester, 19 from 82, 23.2%; A Magnize, (4 from 61, 23.0%; S Gurrough, 3 karn 15, 20.0%; G Llewellyn, 17 from 99, 17.2%.

48

12,40 EVERETT MANAGEMENT .
WATTOMAL HUNT MOVICES HUNDLE
(DW 1: \$2,811: 2m 47) (16 runners)



The grey One Man blazes the trail with subsequent faller The Last Fling en route to victory in the Peterborough Chase at Huntingdon yesterday

Maguire's mount to sidestep The Last Fling, whose company for One Man up front had ended in a sprawl at the

ninth fence. The Moreyouknow (200-1) was already affirming his irrelevance, tailed off though his amateur rider. Michael Harris, gave the race a postscript that was in the circumstances particularly

effectively down to three and Camitrov was soon left behind as Maguire responded to Richard Dunwoody's sudden extra thrust on One Man in the back straight.

with a lame horse.

suspension for persevering

At any rate, the race was

Before the final ditch, I turned to Adrian and asked where Martha's Son was," Dunwoody said. "Without

needing to worry about that horse's foot, I didn't want to get into a long-drawn struggle with Viking Flagship, which would suit him down to the ground."

With his mount dropping back in trip, Dunwoody duly played his cards aggressively. Now the compelling question was whether the tenacious Viking Flagship could examine the alleged fragility, off the bridle, of the Cumbrian champricking his ears," Richards

He could not. The leap One Man produced two out had a shattering effect on Viking Flagship, who confirmed his broken spirit with a tired jump at the last. It only remained for the grey, yet again, to shorten his stride in the closing stages, despite being ridden out.

5-2 against Strong Promise, 7on Avanti Express and Lively Knight into 2 Klairon Davis, and 9-2 One their running on March 7 and March 29 Man and the dual previous respectively, evidence of criminal activity was revealed. As a result the matter was winner, Viking Flagship. passed to the police some months ago and we are working closely on this," he

Either way, One Man now oes to Kempton to seek a third consecutive King George VI Chase. Viking Flagship might conceivably step up in trip there, but is more likely to wait for One Man on his own patch, back at Cheltenham.

On a sharp course, he will

have already won his race

before this characteristic wob-

ble, probably regardless of the

trip. But one suspects that

Richards would prefer to

avoid the Cheltenham hill at

any distance. The horse has

folded abjectly in the last two

Gold Cups, and could yet do

the same even over the two

miles of the Champion Chase.

Hales, is evidently not of like mind. William Hill opened a

book on the race, offering just

But the horse's owner, John

CHEPSTOW

THUNDERER

12.50 Edmond 1.20 Moonraker's Image 1,50 Donjuan Collonges

2.20 Oats N Barley 2.50 Ambleside 3.20 Jet Tabs

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

form hand. G — good S — tolk givet 1. ..." heavy). Gener on brackets. Towns: Age and

315

GOING SOFT

RETTING 7-4 Regal Absence 3-4 Edward 7-1 Spary Tel 9-1 Irany Causai 16-1 Parrethus 16-1 Aug. 1998. MIGHTY MOSS 5-11-5 th F Hundry (Event by) & Natholice 15 for

FORM FOCUS

Edmand near End of 9 to Noby Maner in name number of Cheprices (2m 4) 110yd good to solt, with Two Londs (4 sels), pulled up Flatterhood beal in The Buood 31 or 3-namer number hundle at Ary 2m 110yd, good to solt, livery Coaster 91 2nd of 11 to Chanacet in name hundle at Ary 2m 110yd good previously 111 2nd of 10 to Chanacet system in name hundle at Ascol (2m 4) good, Regal Absence 301 3td of 4 to Brownes Hill Ead in namer first at Managan 211 10th of 20 to Kings Mescure in National Hunt Fiel table at Ary 2m 10th of 20 to Kings Mescure in National Hunt Fiel table at Ary 2m 10th of 20 to Kings Mescure in National Hunt Fiel table at Ary 2m 10th of 20 to Kings Mescure in National Hunt Fiel table at Ary 2m 10th of 20 to Kings Mescure in National Hunt Fiel table at Ary 2m 10th of 20 to Kings Mescure in National Hunt Fiel table at Ary 2m 10th of 20 to Kings Mescure in National Hunt Fiel table at Ary 2m 10th of 20 to Kings Mescure in National Hunt Field table at Ary 2m 10th of 20 to Kings Mescure in National Hunt Field table at Ary 2m 10th of 2m

EDMOND can go one better all expense of lyony Coaster

1.20 SLIGD SELLING KURDLE

PSI 201 41 THUP(1) TIS RUDNETS)

LI-PP14 RACING HAWK 7 (BLL6) IS Month: P Bown 3-11-5

A Linguist
605-00 MODRRANCHYS MIRACE 18 (White Hartz Passon) D Edition 1-10-12

ASS-50 PHROSE 20 (6) Mirch 8 Simile (Linner 7-10-12

ASS-50 PHROSE 20 (6) Mirch 8 Simile (Linner 7-10-12

ASS-50 PHROSE 20 (6) Mirch 8 Simile (Linner 7-10-12

ASS-50 PHROSE 20 (6) Mirch 8 Simile (Linner 7-10-12

ASS-50 PHROSE 20 (6) Mirch 8 Simile (Linner 7-10-12

ASS-50 PHROSE 20 (6) Mirch 8 Simile (Linner 7-10-12

ASS-603-0 DILET MOMENTS 19 (Furniture Sinop P Mirch) 4-10-12

ASS-603-0 DILET MOMENTS 19 (Furniture Sinop P Mirch 9-10-12

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ASS-603-0 DILET MOMENTS 19 (Furnitu

BETTING: 4-1 Rating Hami, 5-1 Golden Lily, 8-1 St Median Stream, 7-1 Moontales & Marge, Quest Moments, 3-1 Standburge Sam, Kanges, Mediady, 12-1 other; 1996, DRAGONAUST 6-10-7 D J Eurobelt (8-1) D Buschell 14 rat:

FORM FOCUS

Reacing Hawh 251 4th of 10 to Weish Silk in novice renduced hardle at Hersterd (2m 3f 110yd, good) providedly best Moraco Sold 13th in 15-number movice selling hardle at Ultimeter (2m 4f 110yd, good) Phinsse 277 7th of 9 to Sails Legend in selling hardle at Ultimeter (2m 4f 10 sold) Duslet Moments 801 8th of 14 to Hoodwinker in handleap hardle at Ultimeter (2m 110yd, good), Roll Again 477 10th of 14 to Facil in maticin hordle at Taunton (2m 3f 10yd good). Storeterings Sam 391 4th to Marsayas, in novice in Newton Abbot 12m 8t, good to firm), Golden Lity 10th 5th of 10 to Decyborg in navice hardle at Taunton (3m 110yd, good) with Lity The Rify (10th better off, partled law).

RACING HAWK should return to winning ways. Golden Lify basi of the others

1.50 STERLING FLUID SYSTEMS HANDICAP CHASE

BETTING: 8-4 Danuary Cottonges, 4-1 Larry's Lord 5-1 Prate Box, 5-1 Pete The Parson 8-1 Proberty Place. Contine

1996: BELLS LIFE 7-12-0 & Tormey (2-1 Gw) P Hooks 4 ran

Prate Box best The Carrol Man 14 in 7-nuner handicap chase at Chepstow (2m 3f 110yd, good to soft) previously 11 2nd of 6 to Frezer Island in herotrete chase at Chepstow (2m 3f 110yd, good) with Coolnes (11th better off) 7141 4th Larry's Lond 2f1 3nd of 6 to Karrolaze in handicap chase at Whorester (2m 7f 110yd, good) with Doniguan Colonges (3th worse off) kell Pate The Parson 441 6th of 8 to logars in handicap hardle at Easter (2m 3f good) Primetriey Place at Medinas Sens Song 13'4 in 6-nuner handicap chase at Easter (2m 3f good) Primetriey Place 38i 5th of 6 to Function Gate in handicap chase at Easter (2m 3f good) Coolnes 50i 4th of 6 to Abhard in handicap chase at Easter (2m 3f good) Coolnes 50i 4th of 6 to Abhard in handicap chase at Easter (2m 3f good) Coolnes 50i 4th of 6 to

2.20 KERRY HAMDICAP HURDLE (£3,420: 3m) (9 runners)

| 1 | 122/1-1 | DEYMMAR 12 (B,O.S) (T Wintery) D Gandello 5-11-10 | R Durevnody | 13 | 15/P/73 EVER SMILE 60 (BF.D.F.S) (D L'Estrange: M Pipe 10-11-7 | A P McCoy | 12 | 15/P/73 EVER SMILE 60 (BF.D.F.S) (D L'Estrange: M Pipe 10-11-7 | A P McCoy | 12 | 1222/11 | NAME: OF OUR FATHER 4 (D.F.B.S) (F Morray) R Burder 11-10-9 | A P POWED | 12 | 124-50 ST VILLE 11 (D.F.B.S) (Br.D.S.S) (Br.D

FORM FOCUS

Deyrnlar 21 4th of 8 to loggins in handicar, hurdle at Exeter (2m 31 good to soit). Ever Smale 26t 3rd of 4 to Derring Budge in familiary hurdle at Martes Rasen (3m, good). Name of our Fother best Clifton Set 177 in 6-numer handicap hurdle at Astot (3m, soit). Barmy Hill Lad 12 2nd of a 50 Dom Beltrand in novice handle at Chepstow (3m, good to soit). Dats N Barley 47t 11th of 12 to Gysart in handicap hurdle at Chettenbern (3m 21, good) with St Vible (8th worse off) 45t last

NAME OF OUR FATHER looks poised to complete speedy trebia

2.50 TIPPERARY NOVICES CHASE (E2,803. 2m 110yd) (4 numers)

1 SISS-21 LAVE MARRA B (D.S.S) Date: Kardin Perthership P Nicholis, 6-11-5 T J Narphy 12003-2 ANGLESIDE 22 (D.S) (8 Ver) Mrs. S Hilliams 6-10-12 S Michell 190 GC2943- QUANCIAS VIEW 263 GF Notices F Tucker 5-10-12 M Critisis (7) 4 (2003-3 ROMANDER) B (D.S.) (M Archael I) Tempton-Power, 6-10-12 C Unweiter 1935 BETTIMS: 11-8 Lalle Nartha, 7-4 Romander 5-2 Arableside 50-1 Durinois View

FORM FOCUS

Lake Karibo best Zabadi 12 in 6-runner nonce chase at literation
Abbol (2m 110yd solf) Ambieside 9/2 and of 6 to Ground Her in
nonce chase at Exeler (2m 11 110yd, good to solf) Durnicks
Wew besten a distance 3rd of 6 to Willh Impunity in nonce chase at Chepstow (2m 31 110yd, good
to solf) Romaincer 29/3 and of 7 to Worthern Startight in novice chase grade 2 at Chepstow (2m 31
110yd, good to solf)

LAKE KARIBA won commonly at Newton Abbot and can tollow up successfully

3.20 WEATHERBYS STARS OF TOMORROW OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT (DIV | £1.618: 2m 110yd) (9 runners)

1.010: 271 710/r0] (9 IUMORES)

1 HISH PRANCE 28 (D.P.) (0 Junits) M Pupe 6-11-11

2 HISH PRANCE 221 (files J Mould) N Twiston-Dayes 5-11-4

3 LET TARS 17 (Jet Sadomery Company Lin) Mrs J Phrance 5-11-4

3 Lendy N THE RUN 298 (5) Link Junits) D Lichbeson 4-11-4

4 R Maccoy (3)

4 SELVER GULL 220 (J Biol & Clebre 6 1 Fearlan) H Hone 6-11-4

8 Powell

R.YMS ARTIST (7 Journs) B Mulliman 5-10-13

PMK SUGAR (Milliaman Group I) H Hande 6-10-13

N Russafer (7)

SOLOISM Milks M (ro. P. Alinet 4-10-13

STEEL FOUNTAM) (W Winds) Mrs F Winde 5-10-13

Milks S Winde BETTING: 6-4 King On The Run, 7-4 Irish Barker 5-1 Jel Tatz, 16-1 Bungley Bank, 16-1 Colonian, 20-1 Pri. Sugar, 25-1 Flying Artes, 50-1 others.

1996: LADY RESECCA 4-11-9 A Magure (5-2) Miss Y Williams 15 (an

FORM: FOCUS

Initial Bankton bead Be Luchy Colim 71 in 14-numer Relational Humi Flat
race at Chellentram (2m 110yd good to linm). Bangley Bank 431
19th of 20 to Kings Measure in National Humi Flat race at Ayr (2m
good). Jet Tabe 111 4th of 14 to Winston Rum in Nat Humi Flat race at Sandown (2m 110yd, good). IRISH BANKER should have little difficulty in adding to his Cheherdram with

3.50 WEATHERBYS STARS OF TOMORROW OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT (Div II. 21.618: 2m 170yd) (8 runners)

CAPTAIN MORRES (P Wagmann) P Efegrann 5-11-4 S Wynne

CAPTAIN MORRES (P Wagmann) P Efegrann 5-11-4 S Wynne

FRANK BYRNE (N Suri) 4 Old 5-11-4 L Harvey

SADIMPER (R Denny) J King 4-11-4 S Houghton (7)

4 CAMISH BARD (Mass C Pedrins) N Escales 5-17-4 R RAVANDS

4 ODDA'S CHAPEL 197 (D Hum) M Sheppard 4-11-4 I P S

8 BALLY LERA 22 (P Roders) P Roderd 5-10-13 S Burrough

7 412421- KRENAHALLA 185P (6,5) (N Spance) G Batong 5-10-13 A P McCoy

B LLOCH NA GLEANN (Doublesie 197) F Jordan 5-10-13 T Eey

#111ME 3-1 Remove 7-2 Fines Byrnz, 4-1 Odda - Chapet 6-1 Bylly Lize, 7-1 Gazumpor 3-1 Komen Ber 10-1 Loch No Glemm, 25-1 Captain Monts 1996: NO CURRESPONDING DIVISION

FORM FOGUS

Odda's Chapet 14) 4th of 9 to The Village Way in Nar Hunt Flat race at Chapeterin (2m 110vd. good to soft) Bably Lina 9/x1 3rd of 14 to Potter Agam in Nat Hunt Flat race at Exister (2m 11 110vd. good) in Nat Hunt Flat race at Worcester (2m. good) ODDA'S CHAPEL looks best of those with racecourse experience

> COURSE SPECIALISTS 75.0 A McCov 29.5 R Dunwoody 27.2 D Bridgester 23.8 A Maguste 21.1 S Burrough 19.5 C Liewellyn

Police investigates doping cases

THE Jockey Club yesterday confirmed that officers from Scotland Yard are involved in the investigation into alleged doping of two horses in the spring. The inquiries centre around the Josh Gifford-trained Lively Knight and Avanti Express, trained by Charles Egerton, who both tested positive after running lacklustre races in defeat.

Avanti Express drifted from 5-4 on to 5-4 before being pulled up at Exeter on March 7, while Lively Knight failed to

2.10 EB F MARSHAL AMPLIFICATION

5-2 Stream Conts, 7-2 Easter Roos, 7-1 Baden Helt, 8-1 Year Fellent, 10-1 Barton Scamp, 13-1 Fringe Banelli, 18-1 others

101.7391 49473 TO SAY TZ (D.F.R.S) OF P Prisoned TI-11-12 OF P Prisoned 121 502-124 LOBSTER COTTAGE 17 (pr.D.F.G) K Bully 9-11-7

5-4 Lobeler Cottage, 7-4 Who's To Say, 7-1 Pictor, 12-1 decients Star 18-1 Lunia, Population, 33-7 Friendly Robbit.

1 1F-2 EAU DE COLOGNE 19 (F-8) Mai 1. Redunts 3-11-10
2 972 NORTS FLUTTER 18F (85) D Electron 3-11-10
3 61-2 NORLD DOPRESS 16 (B,C,F,S) 8 Millions 7-11-2 D Subre (5)
4 P-45 TUKANO 7 (F) J Justices 6-10-13
4 P-46 TUKANO 7 (F) J Justices 6-10-13
5 12-0 CLARESWAM 17 (D,F,S) M Tompton 5-10-13
6 R Class 116
5 12-0 CLARESWAM 21 (D,F,S) N C Selfton 8-10-12 M A Picparall
170
7 ADD ROBING SSEP (VS.S.) J NewNe 5-10-19 M A Picparall
170
170 THE MESE MAS SORE 271 (DD,S) D Grouphy 9-10-8

13 July 1905 1 WEST COME. HERBE 3F (p) of L monte 5 16-6
Mr S Danack (5) 80
14 JO-0 ADMENALTY WHY 12 (8,5) A Bjothesson 11-18-0 ... S Canan 78

5-2 Em De Cologna, 100-30 World Express, 8-1 Junio Mae, 13-2 Como De Perry, 7-1 Bon To Please, 18-1 Chicasana, 13-3 Capper Col., 14-1 offers.

Blinkered first time

3. 10 EDUTY FRANCIAL CONDITIONAL MICRETS HANDICAP MURDLE (\$2,758, 2m) (8)

3.40 RACING FOR LIFE HERTFORD OFFEET LTD NAMBICAL NURDLE (23,116: 2m 8/110yd) (14)

2.40 RACING FOR LIFE REID MINTY HANDICAP CHASE (\$3,257; 2m) (7)

land odds of 7-1 on in a three-runner race at Plumpton three weeks later.

Jockey Club officials last month con-

firmed that both horses had tested positive with a drug believed to be acetyipromazine, a tranquilliser.
Christopher Foster, executive director

of the Jockey Club, reported that Scot-land Yard had been involved in the

We confirm that after additional

THUNDERER

HEXHAM

Waltz, 2.00 Maybe O'Grady, 2.30 Elusive Star, 3.00 Purevalue, 3.30 To-Day To-Day.

1.00 E B F NATIONAL HUNT HOVICES HURDLE (Qualifier: £2,448: 2m) (14 nuners)

Foster stressed the high standard of the security staff employed by the Jockey Club but admitted they could only go so investigations by the Jockey Club sec- far in dealing with criminals.

urity department into the positive reports

2.30 ROYAL OAR AND HERDHOLT HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,084: 2m) (10)

3 125- DAMARUN DEACH 38F (20.5) 6 M Notice 4-11-7 M Bosset 4 28th ELISME STAR 17 (D.D.) Mrs. Memely 7-10-12 B Lew CO 5 3-21 CRABARY 6 (S) Mrs & Sudnora 6-10-11 (7cs) J Soppin 15-10 (S) Mrs. Sudnora 6-10-11 (7cs) J Soppin 17-10 (S) Mrs. ALLERBY 19 J Soudding 9-10-0 B STRUMN (S) Mrs. ALLERBY 19 J Soudding 9-10-0 B STRUMN (S) Mrs. ALLERBY 19 J Soudding 9-10-0 Mrs. ALLERBY 19 J Soudding 9-10-0 Mrs. S Lamb (S) 3 39-5 KUMM (C) LEMB 5-10-0 Mrs. S Lamb (7) Mrs. S La 5-2 Bloome Sim, 3-1 Kildrawary Cartle, 7-2 Caugary, 13-2 Penals, 8-1 Commande Sim, 10-1 Diament Brech, 25-1 Mizationhum, Allesty, Sylven Calebration, 50-1 Relations

3.00 LAZARD PRIVATE CLIENTS NOVICES CHASE (£3,043: 2m 110yd) (8)

23,043: 2m 110/ti) (8)

1 3P3- DURT JOKER 247 (6) H Alexandre 5-10-12 . R MicGrath (3)
2 60- BLEMENT OF RESK 342 W Curreingham 7-10-12 . N Smith
3 58-5 MALLIES 19 D Mothat 6-10-12 . R Supple
4 61-13 PURCEVALLE 13 (0,5,6,5) M W Exatory 6-10-12 . R Search
5 P-SF ROYAL CHARSON 17 (0,1) M Hammond 6-10-12 . R Search
6 7-28-2 WELSH MARCH 11 (3) G M Moore 5-10-12 . J Cathoglain
8 6 RYSANSWYN 381 R Johnson 5-10-7 . K Johnson
8 KYSANSWYN 381 R Johnson 5-10-7 11-10 Pagesake, 11-4 Wests March, 5-1 Foreit Chimotol, 10-1 Coust John 12-1 Sul Foreig, 25-1 Sessoni Cl Rick, Mullim, 33-1 Rysanshyn

3.30 FEDERATION BREWERY MEDALLION LAGER OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT HACE (£1,343: 2m) (17)

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRANSERS & Richards, 22 stones from 73 normers, 30,7%, J Golde, 3 from 11, 27,3% L Luspo 22 from 86, 25,6% 6 M Moore, 18 from 79, 22,8%; P Beaumont, 10 from 48, 20 6%, 8 Etheon, 7 from 36, 79,4%.

1.30 BLAKE ARMS HANDICAP CHASE

2.00 JOHN EUSTACE SMITH NOVICES HANDICAP

1 -21F PERRIE BEACH 25 (BF.CD.F.G) G M Manue 7-11-12
2 32-2 PERRI LEADER 19 (S) C Gunt 7-11-0 P Nove
3 27F- RODSA GOUNG 27-12 Lungo 7-11-0 R Supple
4 5212 MAYEG D'ERROY 8 (DF.GS.) W Caminglam 8-11-3 N Smith
5 0-F2 MAMACA 14 W Dods 7-10-12 B Grazian (S)
7 40-5 DARDY DES PLAIRE 14 MYS S Schill 6-10-11 R Wildresm (S)
8 60-4 FW THE MAW 79 MYS F Sheck 8-78-70 R Lundorsm (S)
9 7 800 CALLERROY S74 (S) D Lundo 7-10-12 B Grazian (S)
18 80-5 LURED PROY 17 M MS M Millinger 6-10-0 B Gunter 3 B Gunter 11 S Butter 11 SP C PERRIE 3 B GUNTER 3 B GUN

11-4 Few Leader, 3-1 Maybe O'Grady, 4-7 Petate Busch, 13-2 fm The Mass, 3-1 Bado Deal, 12-1 Warney, 16-1 Damly des Playes, 20-1 pitzes.

2275: # Bertiny, 13 weeter, bern 40 rises, 25.74; E Callanius, 5 loca 23, 21 7%, P Wieren, 20 from 85, 21 1%, B Gentler, 3 from 16, 18.8%, J Rued, 18 from 104, 17.3%, B Gambly, 10 from 68, 14 7% RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

Huntingdon -

P) THE MESSAMS SORE 271 (CDLS) D Geouphy 9-10-9

9 P-15 CD9999 CDL 32 (DES) R Buster 7-10-6 B Hugan (S) 111
10 54-8 BORS 10 PLEASE 15 (F) P Hobbs 5-10-5 Gorany 107
11 71P MILLIADART 194 (SDLS) T Mischem 7-10-2 R Julyanum 107
12 /1-2 COME OF PERMY 12 (F) D Sampleto 5-10-9

73 3400 MOST WELCOME MENCS 9F (B) 61. Mone 5-10-8
MFS Danck (F) 80 HUTHINGCON

Boding groot

1-10 Sim 21 holls; 1, its Grand U Power.

6-1; 2 Top Suppor (12-1): 3 Viscount Tudy

(14-1): 4, Millory (12-1): 51 Viscount Tudy

(14-1): 4, Millory (12-1): Elite Governor (1-2
inv 19 ran. Mrt. Baylord Phroce. 51, 7; W

Tursar. Tota: 27.70; 32.40, 52.60, 52.60,

(2-50, DF 544 to, Tudy 1-70): CSF
1833 65. Tricast 2559.97.

1-40 (2m 4t 110): cth 1, Lond Rootsio (P

Hole, 7-7): 2, Derson Consiler (3-1); 3,

Remaitin (10-1): 12 ran. Mrt. Marrier, Hd.

23. J. Giftont. Tota: 27.60, C1-60, E1-80,

22.80 DF 513-00, CSF-528-00.

23. 10 (3m 4); High Laurne (JA MicCarthy,

10-1); 2, Coole Hill (11-10 lan); 3, Jan

Valentine (25-1): 9 ran. Mrt. Ryton Fun. 152,

4.50, DF: 211.10. Text. 2103.90. CSF
22-12. Tricast 257-181.

Worcester Going: eat (good to salt in places)

E1.30, 12.80. DF: \$9.00. Time \$9.70 CSF \$1.78.

1.55 (2m 4f 110)cd chi 1. Damosfillyoudrop (7 J Marphy, 100-30), 2. Barnsters. Boy (11-1); 3, Bossymous (16-1). Who Am J (4m) 6-4 fax. 8 no. NRF Touch Silver Na. 4. P. Nicholis Tote \$6.00. \$1.20, 12.00, £1.30. DF: \$1.52. CSF £5.55 /mcst: \$67.4 87 fax: \$1.55.20. CSF £5.55 /mcst: \$67.4 87 fax: \$1.57.90.

2.25 (2m 71 110)cd chi 1. Octowa (7 J Marphy, 10-1); 2. Eutopy (7-2);
3, Edgermory Prace (3-1 tav) 9 san. 12, 25.1. P. Nicholis Tote £10.20; \$2.00, £2.40. £1.90. DF: £23.50 Tax: £16.30. CSF: \$1.00.

2.55 (2m 4i halle) 1. Sessime Seed (J R Kovarragh, 9-1); 2. Dourn Barte (14-1), 3. Prussa (16-1) liver Farthings (5m) 6-4 fax; 7 san. 1i, 1 sal. N Herderson Trate. £11.50. \$6.00, £3.00. DF: £27.30. CSF: £103.35. \$25 (2m 77 110)cd cni 1, Sophie May (D Morre, 8-1); 2. Paucher (5-4 fax); 3, Full of Bource (11-2) 9 san. 10, 18 R Custo Tote: £1.00, £2.60. CSF £18.49, Thicast: Tote: \$1.10. Tax: £2.00. DF: £11.40. There £28.20. CSF £18.49, Thicast: \$1.60.

3.55 (2m) halle) 1, Torch Vert (A.P. McCov, 9-1). \$1.00. \$1.0

DF 557 70 CSF: 272.37. Transat: 21,119.29
12.35 (2m) 1. Another Monk (F Norton, 4-1),
2. Signod And Seeled (33-1) 3. Good
Reputation (4-1) Adoc Pipe (4th) 7-2 fav 11
san. St. at hd. R Ingoram Tote 24 00; 21.20.
E11.10, E1 90 DF: 2229-40 CSF. E130 15
1.05 (1m 21) 1. Confronter (W Ryan. 12-1); 2.
Guesstmation (8-1) 3. Gold Clappte (7-2
law) 13 ran Sh hd. 114 S Dow. Tote 212 00; 23 00; 12-60, 62 10: DF. £21.50 16: 247.70.
CSF. E111 14 Treast £390-67
1.35 (1m 2h 1, Unconditional Love (Dean McKeown, 8-4); 2. Running Stag (4-5 bw) 8
ran. Nit. M. Johnston. Tote £3.20. E1 70, E1.10. DF: 22.40, CSF: 42.28
2.05 (1m) 1. Kaff (A Clark, 8-15 law); 2. 21.10, DF: 22.40, CSF-64.28
2.05 (1m) 1, Kaff (A Clark, 8-15 lav); 2, Manikato (12-11, 3, Other Club (5-1) 11 ran. 3, 7, 25 (1 Moore, Tote, £1.80; £1.50, £1.70, £2.10 DF (5-30 Tro) 59.40 CSF (9.4 Moore, Tote, £1.80; £1.50, £1.70, £2.35 (7f) 1, 10 Destino (FI Cochrane, 4-1); 2, Betchworth Bele (3-1 lav); 3, Alper Egyn (13-2) 11 ran NR: Russian Deligh, Hd, 3-1 P Malker Tote £7.30, £2.50, £1.50, £3.20 DF £15.30, 7 no £2.290 CSF £15.60, £3.20 DF £15.30, 7 no £2.290 CSF £15.60, £3.20 DF £15.30 Trio £2.290 CSF £15.60

Going: standard 12.05 (1m 2) 1, Jubilee Scholar (F Norton, 16-1), 2, Grooms Gold (7-2) 3 Temptress (20-1) Gold Larce 13-B lay 14 ran 9, 14 G L Moore 10ta (20-4) 62 (0), 62 (0), 63 (0) DF 257 70 CSF: E72.37, Treast 12, 118.23

Concern over faulty start sternation at Lingfield yester- believe the race is not void.

won by Jubilee Scholar. The to stand.

But the stewards' report

fractionally late but did not Trainer Hugh Collingridge, whose Captain's Day finished sufficient number of horses

CHEPSTOW: 1.20 LBy The Fifty, Racing Hand, 2.20 Barmy Hill Lad, Deymer. HEXHAM: 1.30 Blazing Trail WeiDSOR: 3.40 Most Welcome Nature. 221.27. Incase: 267.80.
2.40 (2m Sf 110yd hdle) 1, Bessle Browne 9f Thomton, 5-27.2 Macham Muck (20-1); 3. Second Fiddle (28-1) Of Mother (20); 8(2) 8-40. 10 feet 10 \$106.50, CSF: 199.08.
3106.50, (CSF: 199.06.1) 1, One Man (A Dumocole, 13-8 j-key: 2, Viding Flagsing (11-6; 3, Camintov Sti-1) Montes 5 Sti 13-8 j-key: 8 sen. 38, 12. G Reirands, Total 2405.11.30, 12.00, DF: 23.50, CSF: 23.12.

2200 11-30, 12:00 DF (23:30, CSF : 25), 25
3.40 (2m 110) yd Indie) 1, Tibetan (R Durwood), 12-1); 2, Mew Inn (13-2); 3, Berked Sonordon (9-2) Bolo Statement (5h) 6-4 lov 10 ran. 2, 5, 1ady Henries, Tolac £12-10; C3:10, £180, £2-10, DF ISS, 10, CSF, IST, 57, Triang £207,00. 3.55 Sminde; 1, Terch Vert (A P.McCoy, 9-4; 2, Danges Flynn (7-2), 3, Seton Duke (2-1 lan) 14 ren Mr, 151 M Poe Tore C3 (00; E1.85, 2-20, C130 DF - E10 80 Time C1230, CSF-E11 71 Jackpot: not won,
Placapot: £141.80 Canadoot: £28.50.

E15.30 Tno £22.90 CSF £15.69.
3.05 [2m] 1, Flying Colours (A Clark, 10-1);
2. Anjou (11-2); 3. Broughtons Formale [5-1]
Poss Of Glarm (Hth 4-11av 10+an -9, 1m C
Berstrech, Tote £7.30 £1.90, £2.30, £2.00
DF £33.00 CSF £64.02 Tricser £269.06
3.35 [1rid 1, Puzzlement (W Ryan, 3-1 tay)
2. White Paris (10-11; 3. Barbason (5-1) 12
tan Hd. 11% C Britain Toter £3.40 £2.00,
£5.60, £2.80 DF £40.40 Tno £49.00 CSF
£36.05. Tricset £1.42.89
Placeport £611.60

Quandinot £2.90.

RACELINE 0930 168+ COMMENTARY CHEPSTOW 101 201 WINDSOR 102 202 HEXHAM 103 203 120 220

FULL RESULTS SERVICE 168

day when four of the 14 stalls The recall man should have opened early for the first race, raised his flag." result was, however, allowed stated: "Four stalls opened

fifth, summarised the feelings for the race to be void."

Leicester ready to move for Sinclair

BY RICHARD HOBSON

MARTIN O'NEILL the Leicester City manager, is preparing to double the club's transfer record to bring Trevor Sinclair to Filbert Street. He has confirmed his interest in the Queens Park Rangers winger and will submit a formal bid in the region of £3.5 million when the managerial vacancy at Loftus Road is filled.

Sinclair, 24, appeared in the England squad under Terry Venables (without making his debut), and is at the stage of his career where he needs to play in the FA Carling Premiership to further his case for international recognition.

QPR rejected a £4 million offer from Tottenham Hotspur last season and Stewart Houston, then manager, reiterated last summer that he would not sell the club's biggest asset. However, Houston's replacement - the side is managed on a caretaker basis will be told that any money for new signings must be generated from within, and may decide to capitalise on

Tom Smeaton, the Leicester chairman, has promised O'Neill to million for players after the club's floration. While O'Neill has been successful in plucking relatively low-profile players such as Matt Elliott. Neil Lennon and Steve Guppy from beneath the top flight, as well as Muzzy Izzet from the that he must change that if Leicester are to push on.
"We have to be looking at

bringing really decent players to the club," O'Neill said. "We have earned the right to try to take it that stage farther. Things have gone remarkably well this season, but to give that extra push some impetus, it means quality players."
Rob Jones, the Liverpool

defender, is struggling to be fit to face Arsenal at Highbury on Sunday. Jones missed the 1-0 home Premiership defeat by Barnsley last weekend with Achilles problems, but is determined to return for the Arsenal game and the next against Manchester

If Jones does recover in time, it will give Roy Evans. tough selection decision to make after Jason McAteer's positive display against Barnsley. Mark Wright, the former England defender, is close to full fitness after the back injury that has kept him on the sidelines for so long, but Evans is unlikely to make many changes from the side that faced Barnsley, with both Paul Ince and Robbie Fowler

Dalglish seeks to exploit Barcelona's troubles in Champions' League

Van Gaal's slide gives Newcastle hope

FROM DAVID MADDOCK IN BARCELONA

tour guide, on the journey from airport to hotel, was almost a caricature in his gushing praise of everything English. "We'd like your Meester Bobbee Rob-sen very much," he said. "More than the present person." He was, of course, a Barcelona fan and in praising the past coach of the Catalan club, he exposed an uncomfortable truth that has undermined the regime at the Nou Camp.

Newcastle United visit Barcelona in the Champions' League tonight with little at stake but money for old points and a mathematical possibility of qualifying for the quarter-final

stage of the European Cup.
If there is any real North-East interest in this tie, then it is in the shape of Bobby Robson, a Geordie who has wandered far from home. He is still at Barcelona, despite being replaced as coach by Louis van Gaal, formation of modern football with

TEAM

Robson is now a highly paid dogsbody, an employee without a role save, perhaps, to serve as a constant uncomfortable reminder of the comparative disaster that has beset Van Gaal's reign. The Englishman is liked — belatedly — by the supporters because he delivered the Cup Winners' Cup, the Spanish Cup and a place in the Champions'

League in his one shining season. He was replaced by Van Gaal because Luis Nuñez, the club president, expected even more, but his Dutch successor has managed just one point from four matches in the Champions' League and has let slip a seven-point lead in two weeks in the

Pandemonium has broken out. Van Gaal is despised by supporters and the media, and even powerful figures on his own board have begun to question him. "The system of Van Gaal is all wrong and not working."

IT WAS a beautiful moment. The Jaume Sobreques, an ally of Nuñez, said. "If the team continues to play in this way, we will lose more matches than we will win."

It is a situation that Kenny Dalglish, the Newcastle manager. hopes to exploit. The English club has treated this visit to Spain as the ultimate confirmation of its newfound status as an English superpower. Freddie Shepherd, the incoming chairman, was almost starry-eyed as he discussed the trip at Newcastle airport yesterday.

"It is a dream come true really," he said. "To go to the Nou Camp stadium is a great thing for Newcastle United and if I do anything in my new role as chairman, then it must be to ensure that we have more games like this one."

Yet Dalglish is ever the realist. He was happy to acknowledge the history and tradition of Barcelona and its significance for his club, but it was more recent events that dominated his thoughts. "Their results have not been too good and the biggest surprise is that they've only got one point in the Champions' League," he said. "The biggest problem is that just be a little bit of a transition period. The players have made it quite clear that they don't agree with the coach's tactics and that is a situation that might just help us."

Dalglish managed a rare smile as he considered Barcelona's injury problems — they will have nine men absent - but Newcastle have similar difficulties of their own. Fausting Asprilla is still not fit to play, Robert Lee has a virus and is doubtful and Shay Given sustained an injury in training on Monday. With Keith again have a scratch look about their line-up, with John Barnes employed as a temporary centre forward.

But there is something at stake for Newcastle and Dalglish and it is not just the money, as Dalglish ex-plained. "Every point we get brings more money to the club (£250,000 per point), but we go into every game wanting to win it for our pride and our commitment," he said. "We won't even think about the qualifying situation. We will just go out there and do the best for the club and our



Asprilla, who is ruled out by injury, is in demand with autograph hunters on arrival in Barcelona yesterday

Robson's aspirations facing a double test

BRYAN ROBSON, the Mid-Robson's confidence is lifted two matches in four days that he believes could make or

Middlesbrough, who are third in the Nationwide League first division, take on Nottingham Forest, the leaders, at the Riverside Stadium tonight, aiming to end a 24year hoodoo, before another home match against West Bromwich Albion, the secondplaced team, on Saturday.

"Who has the best football

coverage on the Net?"

By LineDon and the internet PRIEL Set $0800\ 111\ 210$.

team beat Swindon Town 2-1 at the County Ground on Saturday and although Midbreak his side's season. dlesbrough are looking for their first win over Forest in the North East since 1973, the incentive lies in the prospect of going top of the table, on goals scored, should they win.
Robson said: "My players are in confident mood and

they will rise to the challenge. They are on a roll and I think it is a great time for us to meet Nottingham Forest and West Brom, who are two of the better teams, in the same week. After our performance against Swindon, in which we showed resilience in a hard battle, these games will show us how far we have progressed and how far we will go this

> "You have to take points off promotion rivals and my players are up for it. We showed tremendous character last season as the games built up towards the end of the season.

and I can sense the same mood in the dressing room." Robson has no fresh injury unchanged team from the one that inflicted on Swindon their first home defeat of the season.

Dave Bassett, the Forest manager, could make one change to the side that beat Chariton 5-2 at the City Ground on Saturday, with Chris Bart-Williams replacing Ian Woan. For the captain, Colin Cooper, it will be a return to the club where he

Gross changes begin at Tottenham

COLD showers before breakfast, cross-country runs and naked swims across freezing lakes. Christian Gross stopped short, just, of including began at Tottenham Hotspur yesterday, but one thing is clear: the hairdryer brigade at White Hart Lane may not last

After the depressingly fa-miliar FA Carling Premiership defeat at home to Crystal Palace on Monday, the new manager outlined the demands that will ensure that if Spurs are to be relegated, they will at least go down fighting fit, tearing up the players' familiar, cosy timetable.

Players will now spend Friday nights, even for home games, in hotels, instead of at home: Saturday nights in bed. rather than nightclubs, and Sunday mornings training instead of nursing hangovers. Oh, and they should prepare for afternoon skill sessions, routine in Europe, but long regarded by English players

as Roy Hodgson found when he joined Blackburn Rovers. boast of their unprecedented fitness under Hodgson, the former Switzerland national coach, who Gross has long admired. Fritz Schmid.

Gross's assistant at Grasshop-

as an affront to civil liberties,



Gross: more training

per Zurich, has been recruited specifically as fitness instructor at Tottenham. There were that some of the players have to have game fitness," Gross, who claimed to be impressed by his squad's mental strength, said. "I know they have conceded most of the

goals later in the game. "I am not coming to change everything in one week, but on the Continent, everyone must train the day after the game. It makes sense because the players feel better. The same with training twice a day. We will do it if it makes

The same with drinking, whatever the tradition is in this country. One beer after a game makes sense, but it is not good for a player to

exaggerate anything." The Tottenham players will stand or fall by their ability to match Gross's hunger. Atten-

tion inevitably turned to

David Ginola and Darren Anderton, the talented enig-mas who symbolise the club's

of Anderton, Gross was player for English football and by playing well for To-tenham he has a good chance of being in the World Cap. But he has had a lot of injuries so, please, be patient

with him." Of the Frenchman, already written off in some quarters as "not his type", Gross said:
"Ginola has to prove himself at Spurs and I am expecting more goals from him. I have told him he can get back in the

French squad. "I would not build a team around one player. Every-body has to work for the team. I will give everybody a chance to prove what he can do, what they are ready to give for Tottenham. They have to be proud to wear the Tottenham shirt. The crest is so important, that must

Bilic picks wrong tactic with

HOWARD KENDALL'S need

His outburst earned a swift rebuke yesterday, and Bilic, signed from West Ham United for £4.5 million this sum-mer, before Kendall's arrival, may find his first-team place threatened if the manager can complete his intended sign put his boots on, not to put the boot in." Kendall said. "We are at the bottom of the Premiership and in situations like this we all need to stick together. To say I am disap-pointed would be an under-

The coaches and myself

sign a replacement for Bilic in Tiler, whom he bared to Shefsigning of Ward, a versatile full back or midfield player,

deal which would see Ward and Tiler complete permanest moves to Goodison Park with £500,000, going in exchange to

Michael Duberry could return after a two-mostin ab-sence for Chelsea. The England Under-21 defender suffered an ankle injury during Chelsea's only home league defeat of the season so far, against Arsenal.

Graeme Le Saux, the England full back, has now returned to training after a month out with a dislocated elbow, but is not ready to play. The 1-0 defeat on Saturday away to Blackburn Rovers was Chelsea's fifth of the

season in the league.

Gisnirance Zola, their Italy striker, said: "Everybody wants, to heat us. It's like they're playing Manchester United or Liverpool and they are desperate to put one over

Kendall BY MATT DICKINSON

to recruit players that he knows and trusts - the Everton manager is attempting to sign Mitch Ward and Carl Tiler from his former club, Sheffield United - was further emphasised by a pub-lic spat with Slaven Bilic

As if the Everton manager was not beset by enough problems -- his side is bottom of the FA Carling Premiership and without an away win since December — as they face Chelsea at Stamford Bridge tonight, he found himself at loggerheads over tactics with one of his senior players. Bilic, a trained barrister and never one to keep his own counsel, has condemned Kendall's coaching methods, particular-ly the lack of defensive organisation at set-pieces, which has cost Everton recent defeats.

have certain ideas of how we do things. It is disappointing that we are concedi from set pieces, but these methods have never failed me in the past. At the moment, we seem to have a half-and-half situation with certain players not believing we are doing things the right way." Kendall is attempting to

who could play at Stamford Bridge tunight. Everon and United will resume talks this week on a

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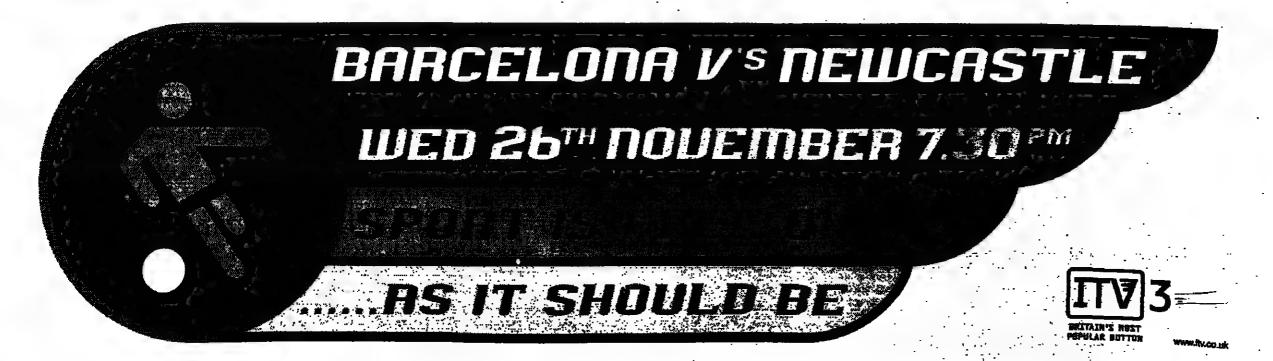
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Property.

1-1





Ireland lose Wood for game with Canada

Wood, the Ireland hooker and captain, is out of the team to play Canada at Lansdowne Road on Sunday because of ankle ligament damage sustained in the recent game against New Zealand. Brian O'Meara, the reserve scrum half, has also withdrawn after suffering a neck injury playing for his club, Cork Constitution, against Terenure College last

Saturday.
Wood will be replaced by Ross Nesdale, of Newcastle, capped three times last season and who replaced Wood against the All Blacks. Nesdale's club colleague, Nick Popplewell, takes over the captaincy. Nesdale's place on the bench goes to Allen Clarke, of Northampton. O'Meara's replacement will be announced today.

Third for Wigan RUGBY LEAGUE:

Wigan Warriors have signed their third Australian player in two weeks. Robbie McCormack, the experienced Hunter Mariners hooker, who has agreed a 12-month contract, joins Tony Mestrov, from London Broncos, and Mark Bell. from Sydney St George, at Central Park.

Kulti doubtful

1.50

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State of the State

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E TENNUS: Nicklas Kulti, who is struggling with a chronic back injury, is doubtful for the Sweden team for the Davis Cup final against the United States in Linkoping this weekend.

Walker on form

SQUASH: Chris Walker, of England, set up a quarter-final clash with Rodney Eyles, the world open champion from Australia, as his return to form continued with a comfortable 15-11, 15-9, 15-3 rictory over Martin Heath, of Scotland, in the Qatar International

Llewellyn wins sixtieth cap in team that shows five changes



Howley is excited at the prospect of taking on the All Blacks on Saturday. It will be only the second time that he has visited Wembley Stadium

Wales take positive approach

IN MAKING five changes to the side that started against Tonga ten days ago, the Wales selectors have been able to strengthen their hand considerably for the meeting with New Zealand at Wembley on Saturday, a match that the All Blacks genuinely believe could be the hardest of their tour. Whether the additions will prove sufficient to topple New Zealand is another matter, but they will certainly give them

cause for thought.

The inclusion of David
Young and Gareth Llewellyn holsters the pack, while Allan Bateman, Kevin Morgan and Robert Howley, a replacement against Tonga, highlight the comparative strength in depth that Wales have behind the scriffn, from where Leigh Davies, Gareth Wyatt and Paul John are relegated to the replacements' bench

Glamorgan cricket club yes-terday. Kevin Bowring, the Wales coach, also attempted to defuse a potential flashpoint when the All Blacks perform the haka. He is keen that there is no repeat of the eyeball-toeyeball confrontation between Norm Hewitt and Richard Cockerill, the England hooker. at Old Trafford last Saturday. Wales would respect the tradition of the haka, Bowring said. but hostilities would be avoided if both teams lined up in their respective ten-metre

"If you do it either side of the halfway line, then it becomes too aggressive in its nature and you lose respect for it," Bowring said.
Liewellyn wins his sixtieth

cap after impressive performances in the two Wales A internationals this season, latterly against the New Zealanders. The Harlequins lock.

flattered to deceive for too long, replaces Steve Moore, of Moseley, who is injured. For all his strengths in the lineout and scrum, Llewellyn knows more is expected of him in the South Africa." loose. David Young missed With Bateman fit again to the game with Tonga through injury, but now replaces Spen-cer John and wins his 23rd

Howley's return was inev-itable after his brief appear-ance against Tonga added zip to the Welsh performance. Having recovered from the shoulder injury that brought a premature end to his British Isles tour. Howley is relishing the challenge of pitting his talents against Justin Marshall, who is likely to be named again as the New Zealand captain.

cap. His experience will "give

our set-piece a solid base",

Bowring said.

Howley who has been to Wembley only once, said:

will be electric. This is another chance to play against a world-class scrum haif and will make up a bit for the sadness of missing out in

partner Scott Gibbs, the Wales midfield has the look of Fort Knox. In selecting the Richmond player, Bowring is hoping that his big-match temperament will give Wales an edge. "Alian's defensive qualities and his all-round game will be vital," the coach said. Morgan replaces his Pontypridd colleague, Wyatt, proof that when fit, he is first choice in a position where Wales have several options.

The strength, on paper at least, of the Wales threequarters has not escaped New Zealand. Andrew Mehrtens, the All Blacks fly half, said last week that any side with Gibbs, Bateman,

ranks cannot be taken lightly. Certainly there is an air of

quiet confidence in a Wales camp that has drawn encouragement from England's per-formance on Saturday. The game will be a milestone in the measurement of our develop-ment towards the 1999 World Cup," Bowring said. "It is still a learning time for us but, since we last played New Zealand in 1995, we are fitter, stronger, more athletic and more determined. No one is underestimating the challenge, but we are approaching the game in a really positive manner."

WALES (v New Zeetend, st Wembley). K Morgan (Pornypridd); G. Thomas (Brdgend), A. Betseman (Richmond), S. Glibbs (Swerssea), N. Walter (Cardiff); N. Jenkins (Ponypsidd), R. Howley (Cardiff); N. Jenkins (Ponypsidd), R. Howley (Cardiff); N. Lander (Swerssea), B. Williams (Richmond), D. Young (Cardiff), G. O. Liewellyn (Harte-quars), M. Voyla (Lieres), R. Appleyan, N. Thomas (Bart), Reptacements: L. Devies Cardiff, A. Thomas (Swensea), P. John

Raising a glass to celebrate fine tradition

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

TRADITION in rugby union may not be what it was but at Grange Road today, a longstanding relationship reaches its fiftieth year when Cambridge University play a XV raised by Micky Steele-Bodger. In celebration, 250 people will dine at Robinson College this evening and will doubtless raise a glass to Light Blue hopes for the meeting with Oxford next month and to M. R. Steele-Bodger.

There are few things in the English game that Steele-Bodger has not done: capped nine times as a flanker before injury, international selector, English representative on the International Rugby Football Board, president of the Rugby Football Union and worldfamed as president of the Berbarians.

He takes particular plea-sure from his long-running support of his old university, where he studied to be a vet at Gonville and Caius College and, aged 22, first assembled the team that bears his name. in 1948. He was moved to do so by the even older fixture that Oxford University Instituted against Major R. V. Stanley's XV in 1919, and his only stipulation was that every Steele-Bodger's XV game should be followed by a dinner.

"It was a bit of fun and I never thought it would reach 50," Steele-Bodger, 72, said yesterday. "When we reached 40, people thought that might be the end and this year it has

been particularly difficult because there are so many games on." Nevertheless, the usual mixture of former Blues. aspiring youngsters - whose place at Cambridge's academgroves, as well as the sporting ones — and interna-tionals will line up against the university this afternoon in the penultimate match of this term before the teams for Twickenham are confirmed

on Monday. Pat Howard, Australia's centre on their recent tour, will form a potent half-back combination with the Argentina scrum half. Agustin Pichot, in a XV led by Steve Cottrell, the New Zealander recently resident at Cambridge and now playing for Richmond.

England's under-21 commitments — London play the New Zealand Rugby News youth XV at Twickenham on Saturday and the "international" between the teams will be played at Newbury the following Friday - have forced the withdrawal of several potential players, but Steele-Bodger has seldom been short of willing helpers: his past teams have included six captains of the British Isles and 21 national captains, of whom one of his favourite memories is an illuminating performance in awful conditions by Phil Bennett, the former Llanelli and Wales fly half.

Spate of injuries poses problem for Scotland

SCOTLAND'S worried selectors will delay naming a squad for the international against South Africa next week until Monday because of injuries to several senior players (Kevin Ferrie writes).

Andy Reed, the lock forward, and Rowen Shepherd, the full back, were named in the 21 for the match against Australia last Saturday, but withdrew with back and rib problems respectively. Although Doddie Weir, the lock forward, has been playing regularly for Newcastle, he

By RAYMOND KEENE

CHESS CORRESPONDENT

In the aftermath of the 1993

Active organisers

has been considered unfit for international duty.

Adam Roxburgh, the blindside flanker, was concussed against Australia, but Rob Wainwright, the captain last season, may be pressed into action after being sidelined this month with a damaged

Graham Ellis, the Currie hooker, who played throughout the five nations' champ broken bones in a hand against ACT last Friday and is out until the new year.

KEENE on CHESS

SAILING: 'KING OF THE SOUTHERN OCEAN' LIVES UP TO HIS BILLING

Smith responds in regal fashion

SALLING CORRESPONDENT IN FREMANTLE

WITH some justification, a rival Whithread Round the World Race skipper recently referred to Lawrie Smith as the "King of the Southern Ocean". Yesterday, on board his garish purple and white Silk Cut, the king made it to Fremantle to celebrate a second leg in which he and his crew set a world record and recovered to take third place overall.

Smith, a shy man at the best of times, looked taken aback when local dignitaries placed a garland of laurels round his neck, but it was clear that the Briton was happy and relieved to have made it to western Australia in fourth place for the

Compared with his preoccupied demeanour at Cape Town at the end of the first leg just over a month ago, this was a more contented skipper of a largely

The difference is as much to do with the performance of others as with his own.

Grant Dalton's nightmare in the South-ern Ocean on Merit Cup, which still had the best part of 500 miles to go yesterday, has improved Silk Cut's position. Smith has also settled an old score with Paul Cayard, on EF Language, who finished five hours behind him in fifth place. Cayard admitted that he had been outsailed in heavy conditions by Smith's young crew.

The distance record of just under 450 miles in 24 hours underlines that Silk Cut is a fast boat, especially in the downwind conditions that typify Whitbread sailing, but the performance also suggests that the boat has not been given the chance to do itself justice because of poor tactical decisions early in both legs.

undamaged boat, despite the fact that he Innovation Kvaerner. Both legs have had again failed to finish in the top three. shown that, with evenly matched boats, the smallest initial tactical error can have serious long-term consequences.

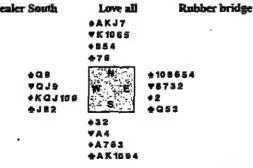
The problem has led to speculation that Smith's young navigator, Steve Hayles, may be replaced or offered new advice while on shore. Senior team sources are claiming that approaches have been made to Nick White, a New Zealand meteorologist, who was originally contracted to Cayard. White, however, is not available for some months because of contract complications, and with Smith's former Whithread navigator, Vincent Geake, not available either — except possibly for the shortest legs - Smith is

more likely to stick with Hayles. "Steve has done a very good job." Smith said. "He kept telling me all the time that 'you've got to go south', but we didn't do it. We need to do things that we There is already a 40-point gap between believe in and stick to them, rather than Smith and the leader. Knut Frostad, in worry about short-term gains and losses."



By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent

David Price, the most successful player in the domestic competitions so far this year, found a play on this rubber bridge hand that you usually only see in text books.



queen of clubs discard meant

South opened One Club, West overcalled One Diamond, North bid One Heart and then raised South's rebid of One No-Trump to Three No-

Declarer (Howard Cohen)

Trumps.

ducked the diamond lead, as most players would, and when West continued with the jack of diamonds, East (David Price) discarded the queen of clubs. Do you see the effect of that? It meant that declarer could no longer develop clubs without letting West in. Had East discarded a spade, say, declarer can cross to a spade, play a club to the ace, then cross to a heart and play another club. If East plays low, declarer wins with the king and leads a third round, establishing the suit. If East plays the queen, South ducks, again the suit is established.

Cohen recovered well from this setback. He ducked the second diamond, and took the next round, East discarding a spade. Recognising that the

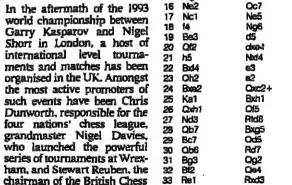
West would have the guarded jack, he took a spade finesse, and cashed two more spades. That forced a diamond discard from West, so after the king and ace of hearts Cohen was able to throw West in with diamonds to lead into the club tenace. But it was a lucky lie of the cards - if West had, say, Jxx of hearts he would have been able to put East in with a third round to lead through declarer's clubs. Also the strength of declar-

er's clubs slightly spoils the story — he might not have ducked the queen of clubs on the line I advocate, in case East had started with QJxx. But note that ducking the first diamond was what gave East the chance to make the spectacular play - if declarer had taken the first diamond there was nothing the defence could

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

a. The Grand Canal in Venice

b. Pertaining to Chanel No 5



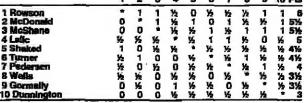
31 Bg3 32 Bt2 33 Re1

such events have been Chris Dunworth, responsible for the four nations' chess league, grandmaster Nigel Davies, who launched the powerful series of tournaments at Wrexham, and Stewart Reuben, the chairman of the British Chess Federation. Another notable organiser is Adam Ranof, who has staged a series of strong competitions. His latest exploit has been a category ten grandmaster tournament in London. Here is a full set of results and a game by the winner.

		ober 1997
		n Defend
1	64-	C5
2	Nf3	de
3	d4	NI6
4	Nc3	CXCI4
5	Nxcl4	Nc6
	Be3	e6
5 7	13	Be7
В	Od2	0-0
9	0-0-0	a6

Diagram of final position 25 X 主法主

Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.



In the above table, 1 represents a wm, In a draw and 0 a loss

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is a variation from the game Speelman — Stean, London

How would White have brought his queenside attack to a successful conclusion?

Solution on page 50



Profile of tennis to increase

By Julian Muscat TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

THE successful exploits of Greg Rusedski and Tim Henman have encouraged the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) to pledge £1 million towards further raising the sport's profile. It will be the biggest promotion of tennis undertaken in Britain. Funding for Play Tennis

98, to be supplemented by corporate sponsorship. comes directly from the LTA's share of the record Wimbledon profits this year. Rusedski and Henman, whose efforts in reaching the quarter-finals contributed significantly to those profits, rallied with schoolchildren in London yesterday to kickstart the project.

The LTA's nationwide drive to recruit more participants, particularly in association with schools, revolves around a week of free access to tennis facilities. Private dubs, park courts and commercial centres have been approached to open their vers. We have got to seize nence in the world rankings with them." approached to open their



Henman, left, and Rusedski launch Play Tennis 98 in Ladbroke Grove yesterday

when every standard of player - including families will be catered for. The scheme's target is to add 500,000 to the five million active participants in Britain. John Crowther, the LTA's chief executive, said Play Tennis 98 would strengthen further the infrastructure that has been developed in achievements of Rusedski Britain over the past seven

the moment if we are going to generate the strength and depth that we all seek." he said. The project is in the clubs' long-term interests and we are expecting at least 500 [clubs] to take part."

Tennis in Britain has rarely enjoyed the attention that has been created by the

has underpinned the successful recruitment of an ATP Tour event, to be staged in London's Battersea Park in February. This [the initiativel gives a chance for kids to play tennis without any cost," Rusedski said. "We need youngsters aged between six and ten to pick up a racket and see if they like it. The and Henman. Their promi- future of British tennis rests

By Philip Howard

WORD WATCHING

LAEVOROTATORY DECANAL

a. A unisex public lavatory b. Counter-clockwise c. Highly rhetorical

TENEBRIFIC a. Cut off short

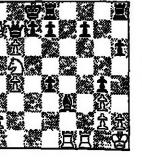
b. Making gloomy c. Wonderful

b. Hateful c. Useless

c. To do with a dean

OTTOSE

a. Fat



'The haka is an absolutely perfect piece of pure gamesmanship'

Daring to challenge an All Black aggressor

walked into a har the other day and I spat in seemed rather aggrieved at this, but I soon put him straight. "Now look here, fellow," I said. "Don't take that tone with me. Spitting in people's beer is an essential aspect of my culture. It is your Solemn duty to respect that."

Well, obviously, the fellow saw my point at once. He apologised very prettily and kept me plied with beer throughout the course of the company so that were all right.

evening. So that was all right.

A not dissimilar thing happened in Manchester last weekend. A group of fellows started capering about in front of another group of fellows. The capering fellows pulled faces. They made a lot of threatening noises and threatening gestures. They also seemed to me to be making estures of elaborate and derfsive sexual insult.

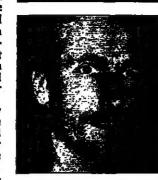
One of the non-capering fellows took exception to the capering and the up-you stuff. So he fixed one of the caperers with his best Paddington Bear Really Hard Stare.

Richard Cockerill, the hooker of the England rugby union team, was roundly criticised for the Paddington bit. This is because the up-you capering is also known as the haka and the New Zealand rugby team always does it before a match. Something to do with Maori tradition, they

"All we ask is that they respect our culture," John Hart, the New Zealand coach, said: though anyone who has taken a taxi in Auckland knows that Maori tradition is not every New Zealander's niggest source of national identity and pride.

"It's not meant to be intimi-dating." Justin Marshall, the New Zealand captain, said. This was not disingenuous, it is something known technically as lying through your teeth.

SIMON BARNES



Midweek View

"It's just part of our culture, something we do." It also just happens to be something that manifestly increases corporate resolves and individual aspiration, Further, it is clearly a form of threat behaviour. It is a kind of war dance and to invoke the spirit

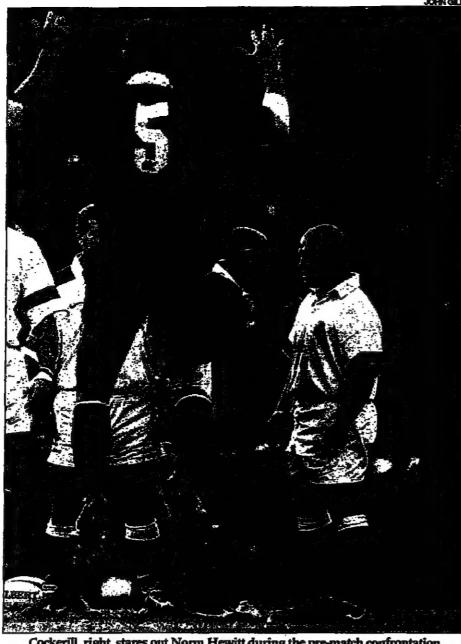
of war does rather tend to

In short, the haka is a sanctioned and legitimised method of starting a game one-up on the opposition. It is a glorious chunk of pure gamesmanship — gamesman-ship in the strict Potteresque understanding of the term.

All Cockerill was doing was

to find some Potteresque solution to the problem of the haka, something that the great man would have called a Counter-Haka Ploy or, per-haps, Counter-Hakaing.

There have been others. Ireland once linked arms and marched in a body on the capering horde before them. Australia once tried an en masse Paddington Stare. Meanwhile, David Campese ran about by himself with a ball, an individual's expression of individual contempt. I have witnessed two perfect



Cockerill, right, stares out Norm Hewitt during the pre-match confrontation

pieces of Counter-Hakaing. The first took place the last time England played New Zealand at Twickenham. The crowd greeted the haka with the loudest blast of "Chariots" ever heard. It was a massive noise and it had a real physical impact. The hake, normally worth a good three points start, was totally defused. England went on to win a famous

The second time was the Hong Kong Sevens. New Zealand were to play Fiji in the final. A group of drunken, shirtless Kiwi spectators ran on to the pitch just before kickoff to perform a rather bad haka. The seven men of Fiji watched in silent contempt.

But then — just before the referee raised his whistle to his

lips - the Fijians crouched as

one man and performed their own war dance. It was a moment of blinding menace and ferocity. Fiji won 28-0. It remains the best bit of rugby I have seen in my life.

ntimidation is always cropping up in sport. The first-minute tackle to "let him know you're there". the off-the-ball jostling, the muttered insults of sledging cricketers. Connoisseurs of intimidation will remember Bruce Grobbelaar, the Liverpool goalkeeper, when facing a penalty shoot-out in the European Cup final against AS Roma in 1984.

At 2-1 down, Grobbelaar began some caperings of his own. He trembled his knees in a parody of nervousness, he frenzy. All three of the subsequent Roma penalty-takers missed the target and Liver-pool won the shoot-out 4-2. Grobbelaar was allowed to

get away with it. The New Zealand rugby team have been getting away with it for years. Good luck to them. Just don't whinge if people start counter-hakaing, morris dancing in the centre circle, doing the hokey-cokey, fighting back with the old Paddington Bear

And stop going on about culture. The fact is that the haka is an absolutely perfect piece of pure gamemanship. matter. To respond to gamesmanship in your own way is, than a basic human right

BASKETBALL

Cheung wins surprise call

LASZLO NEMETH caused a few eyebrows to be raised when he named Silas Cheung in the England squad for their European championship campaign (Nicholas Harling writes).

Cheung, 23, was brought up in the United States, and gained a Division One basket-ball scholarship to Mount St Mary's in Maryland, where he made his name as a guard before joining Trier in Germany.

Nemeth, the England coach, handed him his international debut against Germany in Dusseldorf on Monday, where he collected three points. England face Denmark in Copenhagen tonight, Spain in Plymouth on Saturday and Ukraine in Guildford

Answers from page 49

LAEVOROTATORY (b) Counter-clockwise. A useful alternative to widdershins. "What do you mean, how do you turn it out life a tap, dear girl, a tage. Lacrocounts tatory, of course." TENEBRIFIC

(b) Making tenebrous, ie dark and obscure. From the Latin tenebrut shadows. "Gee white, DECANAL.

(c) Pertajni deanery. Originally eccles-issocal. The part of the choir that sits on the same side of the south side of the chair. The opposite is cantorial. It could also be used in the Groves of Academe. When the Dean of Multimedia Studies observes a Student sit in gang approp his office, the sedative for which he reaches might be described

OTTOSE (c) Serving no useful purpo Or cise, leisurely. Both cor from the same Latin word, otium leisure. The intermediate concept is idle. The irrelevant echoes of odious, adipose and obese make this a useful word for discomforting and even

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE [Nd6+! cad6 2 Rel+ Baci 3 Rucl+ Quá 4 Quil checkmate

Inside the bears' den

The Wildlife Specials BBC1, 7.55pm

Sir David Attenborough (who else!) presents a sin-part series on wild animals to mark 40 years of the BBC Natural History Unit. Over those 40 years, there must have been scores of programmes about leopards, eagles and whales, not to mention the polar bear which features tonight. The justification for returning to these much-photographed subjects in that technology is always moving on, allowing the camera to on where only a few years aso would the camera to go where only a few years 250 would have been unthinkable. In the polar bear film we are taken, for what is claimed to be the first time, unside a den to watch a mother tend her newborn. cubs. Shot in the Arctic, the film uses a year-in-the-life format to evoke the bear's precarious existence in an area where temperatures are savagely low-and food is hard to come by. The lenses of Doug-Allan and Martin Saunders provide the splendid and often unexpected footage.

The Real Holiday Show Channel 4. 8.30om

What links the latest selection of warts-and-all holidays is that the participants are all, to a greater or lesser extent, having to brave it out. For Joanne (55) and John (27) the age difference invites the inevitable stares, though after several shared holidays they are getting used to them. Their latest venture is backpacking through the Far East and if roughing it on the cheap cannot destroy their friendship nothing can. Paul and Richard are two friends in their twenties hoping to enjoy Ibiza. But both are deaf and for Paul particularly, on his first trip abroad, there is a lack of social confidence to overcome. Kathryn is a single mother with an eight-year-old daughter, Caroline, and little spare cash. Their holiday home may be a beach hut in Dorset without hot water or electricity but Caroline could not be happier or more mischlevous. What links the latest selection of warts and all

Secret Lives: Billy Bullin Channel 4, 9.00pm

This is a series which delights in digging up dirt and the king of the holiday camp provides it by the spadeful. Promoting pleasure for others, on the principle of giving them what he thought they wanted, he did not stint on it for himself. The

panna

Canadian polar bear (BBC1, 7.55pm)

supposed family man had endless affairs and drove two of his wives to drink. His second marriage, publicly celebrated on This Is Your Life, was a sham, contracted to legitimise his children and guarantee his knighthood, ironically awarded for services to church and charriy. He paid his staff so badly that pilifering at the camps was rife, as was the opportunity for sexual adventure. The randy Redcoats were inadvertently following their master's example. But Budin was still a great showman who brightened thousands of lives.

BBC2, 9.50pm

Radio 4, 7.20pm

The latest couple to air their marital troubles before the cameras are Mary and Alan from Hertfordshire. She met him when he was her boss Hertiordshire. She met him when he was her boss at the bank. Fourteen years later they have three children but things are not happy. As the film opens she is talking about splitting up. Instead they go to Relate for six weeks of counselling sessions. No punches are pulled. Mary accuses Alan of not helping around the house and with the children. He retorts that he works hard to keep the home together and that she is always on the take. His redundancy, and their daughter's assistma, are His redundancy, and their daughter's asthma, are further sources of strain. The Breaking Point series comes from BBC Education and is clearly intended to promote the value of marriage guidance. But there cannot help being a feeling of intrusion on the problems of total strangers. Peter Waymark

The Dream of Gerontius (Sounding the Century)

Radio 3, 7.30pm

This is billed as part of the BBC's 75th anniversary celebrations, indeed it is the principal music programme marking that anniversary. This towering work by Elgar, based on the poem by Cardinal Newman, was regarded by Elgar himself as his finest. It certainly qualifies as one of the great works of this century and this live broadcast from St Paul's Cathedral, also transmitted on BBC2, will be even more of a special event given that it involves the BBC Symphony Orchestra and its conductor Andrew Davis, who is one of the world's leading interpreters of Elgar. The soloists tonight are Catherine Wyn-Rogers (mezzo), Philip Langridge (tenor) and Alastair Miles (bass), with the BBC Symphony Chorus.

Jo Whiley, Includes at 12,30pm Newsbest 2,00 Mark Radollife 4,00 Dave Pearce 6,15 Newsbest 6,30 Evening Session 8,30 Trade Update 8,40 Mystery Presenter 10,30 Mary Anna Hobbs 1,00am Cibe Werren 4,00 Chris Moyles

Trials 10.00 Auntie's Fernity Album. The first of it new series in a which Michael Aspet Copovers a collection of scenes from the corridor, archive 10.00 Festion Album 13 65 and Series Series 19 65 and Series Series 19 65 and Series Series 19 65 and Series Seri

RADIO 5 LIVE

6.00am The Breaktest Programme 9.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00 Middey with Mair 2.00pm Ruscos on Five 4.00 Nationwide 7.00 News Edna 7.30 John Inverdale's Football Night Barcelone v Newcastle. Cammentary on the Champions' League match 10.00 Littlejohn 11.00 News Edna 12.00 After Hours 2.00

VIRGIN RADIO

5.00mm Jeremy Clark 7.00 Chris Evens 10.00 (FM) Robin Bants (AM) Graham Dene 1.00pm (FM) Nick Abbot (MN) Nicky Home 4.00 Russ 'n' Jono 7.00 (FM) Paul Coyte (AM) Calmin Jones 10.00 Mark Formst 2.00mm Richard Porter

5.30am Paul Ross and Carol McGillen 9.00 Scott Chisholm

Radio 4, 720pm

The third programme in a series presented by my colleague Libby Purves has a contemporary, not to say controversial, ring. The series is about the development of Christianity in Britain over the past 1,000 years. Tonight's programme tackles the vested subject of the relationship between Church and State, an issue at present exercising minds in Whitehall, Westminster and, no doubt, other palaces. Medieval kings apparently used bishops as no more than civil servants and even, in extremis, as military leaders. This interweaving of the State and the Church is defended in the

6.00mm Neweday 6.30 Europe Today 7.00 News 7.15 Off the Sheft: The Handmaid's Tale 7.30 Meridian Live 8.00 News 8.10 Pause for Thought 6.15-Westway 8.30 Everywomen 8.00 News; News in German (648 only) 9.05 World Business Report 9.15 The Ferming World 9.30 Science File 9.45 Sports Roundup 10.00 Newsdesk 10.30 One Flenet 11.00 Newsdesk 11.90 Sports International 12.00 News 12.05pm World Business Report 12.15 Britain Today 12.30 Waveguide 12.45 Sports Roundup 4.00 Newsdesk 2.00 News 4.00 Newsdesk 2.00 Ne Business Report 12:15 (state) 10:039 12:30 Wavegudes 12:45 Sports Roundup 1.00 Newshour 2:00 News 2:05 Cythols 2:30 News Sports Roundup 3:15 Performance 3:30 Everywoman 4:00 News Roundup 3:15 Performance 3:30 Everywoman 4:00 News Roundup 3:15 Performance 3:30 Everywoman 4:00 News Roundup 6:00 Roundup 4:45 Rotath, Today, 5:00 Europe Today 5:30 World Business Report 3:45 Sports Roundup 6:00 Roundup Roundup 6:00 Roundup Roundup Roundup 6:00 Roundup Rou Press 8.09 Newshour 9.00 News 9.05 World Business: Report 9.15 Britsin Today 9.20-On Screen 10.00 Newsciesk 10.20 The World Today 10.45 Sports Roundup 11.00 News 11.05 Outlook 11.30 Multitrack X-Press 12.00 Newsciesk 12.30es From Our Own Correspondent 12.45 Ettain Today 1.00 Newsciesk 1.30 Ormabus 2.00 Newsciesk 2.30 Meridan Books 3.00 News 3.05 World Business Report 3.15 Sports Roundup 3.20 Journey to the Center of the Alom 3.45 Children in Conversation 4.30 Newsciesk 4.30 Europe Today 5.00 Newsciey 5.30 Surope Today

CLASSIC FM

6.00mm Alen Menn. Including the Morning Merch and Breakfast Berroque 8.00 Henry Kelly. Micheel Berry prepares monKs missed vegetables and Record of the Week lestures the best of the new releases 1.00pm Listenar Request Hour with Jane Jones 2.00 Concerto. Rodrigo (Concieno de Arenjusz) 3.00 Jamie Crick 7.00 Newsmight with John Brunning 7.30 Sonsia. Stanford (Clerinet Sonsia) 8.00 Evening Concert. Brahms: (Academic Festival Oversure); Liezt (Hungerien Respood) No 1); Bruch (Violin Concerto No 1 in G minor); Brahms (Symphony No 1 in C minor) 10.00 Micheel Meppin 2.00em Concerto (r) 3.00 Mark Griffiths

6.00cm On Air with Andrew McGregor, Gevin Bryers (Sub Rosa); Ravel (Rapaodia Espegnole); Vierne (Kyrie, Messe Solennelle); Grieg (Hotherg Sulta)

9.00 Morning Collection with Peter Hottchy, Liezt. (Transcendental Studies Nos 1-4); Mozart (Symphony No 36 in C, Lirz)

10.00 Mustical Encounters Pucchi (O Mirri, Tu Più Non Torni: La Boherne); Balbestre (Sonets en Quetuor No 3); Errert (Cornects for Orchestre); Bizet (Au Fond du Temple Seint, The Pearl Fishert); 10.49 Schelling (Sults fantastique); Warfock (Capriol Sulta); Maovari Davies (Fanewell to Stromness); Mozart (Soeve Ste II Verto, Cosi Fan Tutte)

1.00pm The Radio 3 Lunchtiese Concert Live from the Adrian Bout Hall, Birmingham, The opening recital in this series is given by the pismist Gordon Fergus-Thompson, Bellyns (Hree krismesz from Op 117); Chopin (Barcarolle in Fisharp); Rachmaninov (Pretude in E Rat, Etude-Tableau in E Rat minor); Scriabin (Etude in 8 Rat minor, Versia Faranne)

2.00 Michaesek Chrelon Telephone (111, 125, 43); with

E flat minor): Schabm (exceens in Example) is Flamme)

2.00 Midweek Chicke Telephone 9171-765 4308 with your musical suggestions for the beginning of National Tree Week. Presented by Susen Sharpe 4.00 Choral Eveneoung Live toom Livespool Anglicen Cathedral

5.00 in Tune Seen Flatfierty Introduces Stravinety's take on tungo and Lotte Lanya's take on Kurt Weill

6.00 Rush Hour Concent: Volces at the Wigmore Hall, Presented by Iain Burnalde, The First in a new series of recitats five from Wigmore Hall,

Landon, features the mezzo-soprano Ann Murray in a programme of music inspired by her native leatand. With Steuart Bedford, plano, Beethoven, arr Moore (Two Inish Songs); Berfoz (Three Songs to Poems by "Thomas Moore); Riefi (Four Songs to Poems by W.B. Yeats); Berber (Three Songs to Poems by James Joyce)
7.00 Cocktalist: Descript in the Dark. Recordings made by London dance bands in the 1920s and 1930s. Including Carroll Gibbons, plano, and the Savoy Crpheens, the resident band at the Savoy Hotel. With vocalists Anne Lenner, Jack Plant and George Melachrino (f)

Savoy Orpheans, the resident band at the Savoy Hotel. With vocalists Anna Lenner, Jack Plant and George Metachrino (r)

7.30 The Bresse of Georgetius (Sounding the Century) The BBC 75th Anniversary Concert, live from St Paul's Cathedral. See Choice

8.30 Designs for Living Susan Merifry vists the great romantic houses of Str Edwin Lutyers, including Castle Dropo (3/5)

8.46 Wedding Demose Gyongy Ligeti's arrangements of Hungarian and Romanian folk songs of Hungarian and Romanian folk songs of Hungarian and Romanian folk songs to Hungarian folk songs to Hungarian and Romanian folk songs to Hungarian folk songs to H

5.95am (LW) Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Bristing 6.10 Faming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today 8.40 Yesterday in Partisment 8.68 Weather 8.00 News 9.05 Mildweets, with the Times columnist

Libby Purves and guests
10.00 (FM) News; Power and How to Get It. Jeremy
Hardy lenocks on the doors of the high and mighty

Hardy lenocks on the doors of the high and mights and asias how they got there (3/4).

10.00 (LW) Daily Service.

10.15 (LW) On This Day, with Geoffrey Wheeler.

10.30 Woman's Hour. Introduced by Jenni Murray.

11.30 Gendeners' Question Time. Nigel Colborn, Bob. Flowerders and Geoffrey Smith answer questions posed by gardeners from the City of Brisial (f).

12.00 News; You and Yours, with Margaret Collins.

12.25pm Dinner Ladies: A Very Mond Griffing. The conscisuion of Turan All's cornedy drams. (6/5).

12.55 Weather.

Conclusion of Tusan All's comedy drams (pro)
12.55 Weather
1.00 The World at Ose, with Nick Clarks
1.40 The Archers 1,55 Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Bysteries of the London Underground:
Death on the District Line by Michael Butt. The
last of three mysteries, Sterring Sylvestra Le
Totzel and Michael Meloney (3/3)
2.45 Treesure Islands, with Michael Rosen
3.00 News; The Atternoon Shift, with Dairs Berlan
4.00 News; Kaleldoscope, Paul Gambaccini reviews
Sigourney Weaver in Allen Resurraction and the
Mike Figgis film One Night Stand Plus, a look at
the work of the director Dougles Shift
4.45 Short Story; Substernion, by Etzabeth Buchen,
Transferent

5.00 PM, with Clere English and Charlie Lee-Potter 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather 6.00 Shx O'Clock News 5.30 Wildberin (r) 7.00 Meters; The An

7.20 Mysterious Waye: Church and State, with the Times columnst Libby Purves. See Choice (3/6) 8.05 A Night with — Frances Pylield. The crime wher chooses music and writing which evoke right-time for her (3/6) 8.30 Glasts' Shoulders: Newton — Standing on the Shoulders of Glasts. Presented by the Times.

night-time for her (3/6)

8.30 Glasts' Shoulders: Newton — Standing on the Shoulders of Slants. Presented by the Times columns Methyn Bragg (3/6)

9.00 Colling the Earth. Environmental programme with Jeremy Cheries (2/2)

9.35 Kaleidoscope (f) 9.53 Weather

10.00 The World Tonight, with Isabel Hiton

10:45 Book at Bedtims: Another Time, Another Pleas. Jessic Kesson's account of an Abardeenshire iam which takes on foreign workers in 1944. Abridged by Brian McCaba, read by Vicki Masson (3/10)

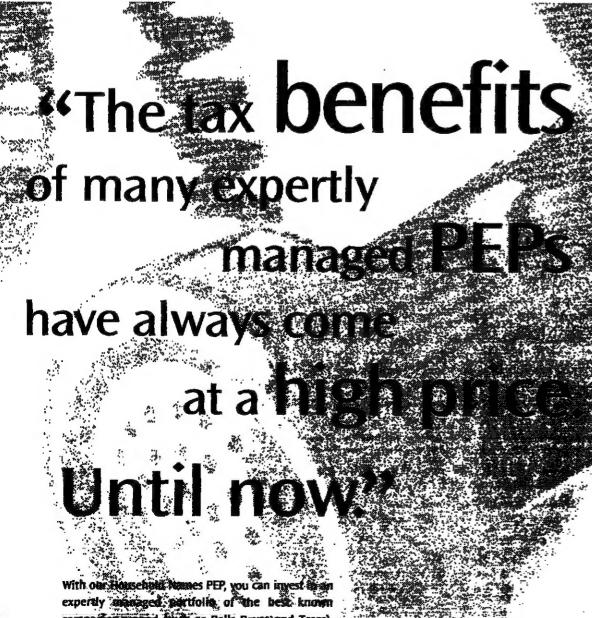
11.00 The Iguanodon: Big Fat Liers. Comedy adventure by Paul Loss. With Paul Heigh, Dermot Crowley and Bernard Cribbins (2/3)

11.30 (FM) Heir in the Gabs. Cive Coleman's cornedy series so in the world of arts broadcasting. With Geofficy Whithead and Rebecca Front (2/4) (f)

12.00 News 12.30em The Late Book: Bright Lights, Big City, by Jay McInterney (8/10) (f)

12.46 Shipping Forecast 1,00 As World Service

PRECHENCY GUIDE, RADIO 1. FM 97.5-95.8. RADIO 2. FM 86.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720, RADIO 5 LIVE, MW 683, 909, WORLD SERVICE, MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55em). CLASSIC FM, FM 100-102, VIRIGIN RADIO, FM 106.8; MW 1197, 1215, TALK RADIO, MW 1053, 1089, Television and radio latings compiled by Peter Deer, len Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, has



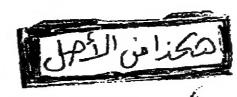
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Joanna's plum pudding needed pruning

in Britain to get away with having a seriously pukka accent on television. The gentlemen who police horse-racing didn't, oh dear me no, but we'll come to them shortly. But Lumley, as she set about retracing a Himalayan journey her grandparents had taken 66 years ago, did. There was something about the way she said "Bhutan": still only two syllables, but each mysteriously, deliciously seemed to go on forever.

Sorry, getting a bit carried away. Put it down to listening to a Lumley commentary for 75 minutes. It was a bit like drowning in Christmas cake. "Irs-all so absolutely remote from Erigland and London - almost as if we're travelling on a different planet and through a different age." As Joanna Lumley in the Kingdom of the Thunder Dragon (BBC1) got.

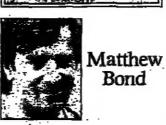
I t was the sort of night that under way, you stuck in a thumb made you realise that Joanna and pulled out plum after plum: people can make films that go on Lumley may be the last person "Granny kept a diary of the too long and spend too long overjourney and I'm going to do the same." Oh goody.

There were the Buddhist monasteries, which the Queen Mother (theirs not ours) had given Lumley and Maybe, her cousin (as in Maybe this one will be a girl), special permission to film inside. In a way these monasteries are microcosms of the country - each a closed community but full of their own life and discipline, at once well informed about current affairs and yet strangely timeless." "Bhutan, country of contrasts" was

surely just a moment away. It never came and deep down I know I'm being a bit hard on La-Lumley, whose only serious rival in being declared "nicest person in" the world" can be Michael Palin. Lumley is so nice, so well mannered, that she began her thank-yous a full ten minutes before the people can make films that go on too long and spend too long overpolishing a narration, when a bit more of the spontaneous stuff to camera was what was needed.

Te needed more impromptu pony club lessons (100 www.much carpet for good leg aids"), more on the delights of blue nylon and more fantasies about "a little peachy gin and tonic". What we needed less of was: "Even though we can't speak Bhutanese, it's amezing how one can exchange ideas and thoughts, get to know people and find our about things." But what she deserves full credit for is travelling without a trace of Patsy from Absolutely Fabulous, no matter how difficult that made life for the BBC trailer department. The only mention of the dread words came when Lumley was having dinner with some junior royals (as she does) and one of





them, even more pukka-sounding than she, answered his phone. There was a short pause, "What do you mean, you old bugger? Another pause. "Absolutely lous." I may be wrong but I think a member of the Bhutan royal

Bond

family had just won a bet. He was a racing man - Newmarket was his favourite course. But he had the good sense to stay in the Himalayas rather than go anywhere near Cutting Edge: The ards are not members of the Jockey Englishman and his Horse Club? But no, they had to a have (Channel 4). Others were not so fortunate, falling victim to the sort of film where the original purpose becomes completely obscured by the monumental chip on its maker's shoulder. From the opening succession of upper class, middle aged men banging on about their passion for horse racing, you knew exactly what was coming. It was stirch-up time.

I'm not sure who comes out of it worse? The Jockey Club for falling for the old fly-on-the-grandstand documentary trick again, or Chan-nel 4 for showing a film that was both vicious (having a pukka accent was the worst crime of all) and unforgivably sloppy.
You would think a film that had

told us within the opening five minutes that there are 100 members of the Jockey Club and 300 stewards at race courses would be able to work out that most stew-

dever little sequence at the end when they asked each of their unfortunate subjects whether they were members or not? The succession of "no"s was taken by Riete Oord as confirmation of a greater conspiracy, but all it confirmed for me was that she couldn't do arithmetic and hadn't done her homework. The confusion between people who work for the Jockey Club and those who are members of it simply added to the impres sion of a film-maker in search of a target, any target — as long as its accent was posh enough.

mugly, the commentary kept observing how David Pipe, head of public relations at the Jockey Club, was "keeping an eye on us". As he had probably realised, by now, that he had just made the worst mistake of his career, I'm not surprised. Only in

5,55em Sesame Street (46959)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (50881)

(1) (3061133)

7.00 The Big Breakhast (5081)
9,00 Schools. Making Sense of Science (97423) 9.30 Good Health (T) (4151133)
9.45 Book Box (T) (4156688) 10,00
Stage Two Science (T) (5260143) 10.15
Ratie-Tat-Tat (8610864) 10.30
Geographical Eye (T) (2078133) 10.50
Stop, Look, Listen (T) (8220997) 11.00
First Edition IV (3071510) 11.15 The Mox

11.30 Powerhouse (T) (9084) 12.00 Sesame Street (84959) 12.30pm Light Lunch (14317) 1.30 Book Bergain (b/w) A 1937 short about printing the London telephone directory (84066152)

1.40 The Birthday Present (1957, b/w) starring Tony Britton and Sylvia Sims. A drama about a salesman who loses everything when he is sent to prison for trying to smuggle a watch into the country to give to his wife. Directed by Pat Jackson (15808591)

3.30 Collectors' Lot featuring a collection of lipsticks from the 1950s; Joan Collins and

6.00 Gamesmaster Computer games magazine presented by Dominik Diamond with Patrick Moore (T) (997)

7.50 Get Sorted Keeping egg-laying hens

8.00 Brookside Lindsey has a change of

The Real Holiday Show Holidaymakers' video diaries from southern China, Ibiza and Dorset

Secret Lives: Billy Butlin The story of the "Holiday Camp King" (1) (5133)

Ewan McGregor stars (10,00cm)

10.00 Trainspotting (1996) starring Ewan McGregor, Robert Carlyle and Jonny Lee Miller. Controversial award-wirining black

5.30 Rossenne (r) (T) (249)

heart (T) (7404)

(5/8) (T) (6539)

7.00 Channel 4 News (T) (324794)

Dynasty paraphemalia; and ballroom dancing dresses (T) (713) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (220) 4.30 Countdown (T) (1414404) 4.55 Ricki Lake (T) (9261959) 5.30 Pet Rescue (T) (864)

Stewards Inquiry into overuse of the whip manage to turn the stewards into the villains of the piece, rather than the apprentice jockey who freely admitted that he had lost his head. Never mind, they still had the deputy head of PR making the biggest mistake of his career, talking about "the master-servant relationship" on camera and Peter Walwyn, the trainer, on why all his employees call him "sir". That'll do. But it shouldn't.

If Channel 4 had unambitiously set out to confirm tired old preconceptions, BBC2's Timewatch: The African Trade aggressively set out to overturn them, arguing persuasively that the West African slave trade had only been possible be-cause black African slave merchants colluded with white European slavers. It excused nothing, explained a lot and produced a very impressive, pukka piece of

of the sage 6.00am Business Breakfast (53249) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (I) (67171) 9.00 Good Living Dried flower arrangements, Christmas hampers and traditional and

vegetarian sausages (5246862) 9.25 Style Challenge (5265997) 9.50 Kilroy (T) (8568299) 10.30 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (3381571) 10.55 The Really Useful Show (1) (7543201) 11.35 Change That (1916602) 12.00 News (T) (6933133) 12.05om Call My Bluff (8264571)

12.35 Give Us A Chie (2952930) 1.00 News (T) and weather (37930) 1.30 Regional News (84073442) 1,40 The Weather Show (59531607) 1.45 Neighbourn (T) (97486572)

quarter-final (5800107)
3.30 Playdays (8804065) 3.50 ChuckleVision (8884201) 4.10 Get Your Own Back (5917733) 4.35 Out of Tune (1420065) 5.00 Newsround (T) (5161688) 5.10 Blue Peter (T) (9012688)

5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (545133). 6.00 News (T) and weather (959) 8,30 Regional News (539)

7.00 Face Value The Chippendales reveal their beauty secrets. Does the use of star names to promote cosmetic companies and designer labels attect what the public actually buys? (T) (687775) 7.25 Tomorrow's World A ground-breeking new treatment to control epilepsy; the

future of home antertainment with "enhanced" television (T) (411423) Poler Beer: A Wildlife Special Martha Holmes and

Doug Allan risk life and limb to film polar, bears inhabiting the Arctic ice-caps (1) 8.45 The National Lottery Live presented by

Carol Smille with music from Bryan Adams, includes a report from the old Reading Room of the British Museum by Tony Benn, MP (1) (934404) 9.00:News-(1) and weather (5881) - . 17 4:11 util

9.30 Absolutely Fabulous: Feer Edina's daughter Satty files the nest, so Fatsy promptly takes her place in the Monscon. 9,59 National Lottery Update (381084)

20,00 The X Files: Leonard Betts Mulder and Scully investigate the case of a decapi-tated body which walks out of a hospital morgue, triggering a search for a highly evolved humanold lifeform. Supernatural drame, starting David Duchovity and Gilfan Anderson (T) (764626) 10.45 Tom Jones (3/5) (r) (T) (389084) WALES: 10.45 First Resort (233355)

11.15 Tom Jones (600249) 12.10e FiLM: Plan of Attack (3458195) 1.40 News headlines and weather (9060398) 1.45 BBC News 24 11.40 Plan of Attack (1992) with Loni Anderson and Anthony John Denison. A

rape victim is terrorised by her vengelu ittacker after his release from prison 1.00em Weather (9315447) 1.10 BBC News 24 . .

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BBC2 6.00em Technology: Errors Aren't Forever (87930) 6.30 Télétal (50571)

7.00 See Heer Breekfast News (T and signing) (4535369)

7.15 Teletubbles (r) (4617572) 7.40 The Perils of Penelope Pitstop (r) (2991713) 8.05 It'll Never Work (r) (T) (2571510) 8.30 Model Mille (r) (2501317) 8.45 The Record (9267591) 9.10 Wher? Where? Wher? Why? (6941369) 9.25 English Express (2851046) 9.45 Words and Pictures (4154220)

10.00 Teletubbles (21881) 10.30 Numbertime (3915779) 10.45 Watch (2480884) 11.00 Around Scotland: (1290268) 11.20 Geography Programme (3057930) 11.40 Revista (8917387) 11.56 Outros Minutes Plus: (1469607) 12.10pm Science in Action (8429423) 12.30 Working Lunch (19133)

1.00 Noddy (r) (31014030) 1.10 The History Hour from Norwich (6004404) 2.10 Going, Golng, Gone (62174355) 2.40 News (3016404) 2.45 Westminster (4300862) 3.55 News (8831404)

4.00 Snooker: UK Championettip Further quarter-final coverage (5423)

6.00 The Ren and Stimpy Show Double-bill of cartoon misadventures (T) (656249) 6.20 Building Sights, USA The actress Diane Keston discusses the architecture of Frenk Lloyd Wright's Ennis-Brown House (1) (177317)

6.30 Black Britain The legacy of the New Cross fire trapady, how a recently passed law in America could outlaw positive discrimination; and how Roni Size has been helping budding Bristol musicians (T) (881)...

7.00 Snooker: UK Chempionship Quarter final action (3688)



7:30 The Dreem of Gerontius A live performance of Elpar's choral work from St Paul's Cathedral. Simultaneous broadcast with Radio 3 (T) Subsequent programmes may run lete (84086930) 9.25 Snooker: UK Championship Highlights

Breaking Point Relate counsellors set out to help a couple whose marriage has reached a crossroads (T) (953423) 10,30 Newanight (T) (890775) .

11.15 Shooker: UK Championship (125133) 11.55 Weather (109030) 12.00 The Midnight Hour (65945)

12.30am Learning Zone: The Making of Germaine Greer (9440114) 12.45 Great Berlin: Changing Europe (8135008) 2.06 Schools: The Economics Collection (33060) 4.00 Languages: Italianissimo (19640) 5.00 RCN Nursing Update 5.30 RCN Nursing Update

HTV

6.00em GMTV (4718152) 9.25 Supermarket Sweep (5241317) 9.55 Regional News (6768046) 10.00 The Time, the Pince (25607) 10.30 This Morning (T) (48037591) 12.20pm Regional News (6939317) 12.30 News (T) and weather (2988355)

12.55 Shortland Street (2983046) 1.25 Home and Away (f) (28543188) 1.50 The Rockford Files (5305572) 2.50 Vanessa: Britain's Most Boring Man (T) (8304607) 3.20 News (T) (8616065) 3.25 (legional News (8615338)

3.20 Tots TV (3530084) 3.40 The Singing Kettle News (1829336) 3.50 The New Adventures of Winnis the Pooh (8093713) 4.20 Neil's Art Attack Scrapbook (T) (1212125) 4.45 Sabrine the Teenage Witch (T) (1411317)

5.10 WALES: Yan Can Cook - The Best of China (728539) 5.10 No Naked Flames — The Work Experience (728539)

5.40 News (1) and weather (728539) 6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (562336) 6.25 Regional Weather (448317) 6.30 Regional News (T) (607)

7:00 Emmerdate The Calms have a housewarming party for Woodside; Sam takes Merion to see the van he has been stealing from (T) (3442)

7-30 Champions' League — Livet Bob Wison presents coverage of the mesch between Barcelona and Newcastle United (T) Includes National Lottery results (T) (93948802) NB: Subsequent programmes may run late

9.45 Coronation Street Judy flees to safety with the beby; and Les gets too close for Samenths's comfort (T) (237171) 10.15 News (T) weather and National Lottery result (229152) 10.45 Regional News (T) (349249)



Trever McDonald (10,55pm)

10.55 The Hunt A focus on the blood sport debate that is dividing the nation. Tonight, both sides of the hunting world fight it out in a bid to influence Friday's vote in Parliament (361688) 11.55 Tropical Heat (r) (220152)

12.55am Collins and Maconie's Movie Club (7758485) 1.25 Real Stories of the Highway Patrol (r)

(6329992)1.50 Customs Classified (r) (7540534) 2:30 Cool Vibes (4615737)

2.40 Champions' League: Feyencord Juventus (220718) 4.20 Phenomena (40211824) 4,35 The Time, the Place (r) (93342992) 5,00 Coronation Street (r) (T) (73534)

CENTRAL CHANNEL 4

As HTV West except 12:55-1 25 & Country Practice (2963046) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (9574539) 6.25-7.00 Central News (820133)

11.55 Film: The Horror of Fran (336978) 1.40em in Focus (7934718) 2.25 Cool Vibes (8463718) 4.20 Central Jobfloder, 97 (5888718)

5.20 Asian Eye (9909060) A STATE OF THE STA As HTV West except:

12.20pm-12.30 [Juminations (6939317) 12.55 Home and Away (7967607) 1.20-1.50 Emmerdale (79067607) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (9574539) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (21978) 11.55 Secrets of the World's Great Escape Artists (220152)

MERIDIAN As HTV West except:

5.10-5.40 Home and Away (9574539) 6.00 Meridian Tonight (355) 6.30-7.00 Put It to the Test (607) 11.55 Beyond Reason (213510) 12.25em Meridian Masterclass (1775027) 5.00 Freescreen (73534)

ANGLA As HTV West except:

12.19pm Anglia Air Watch (6941152) 12.55-1.25 The Fashion Police (2963046) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (9574539) 6.23 Anglia Weather (449046) 6.25-7.00 Anglia News (820133) 10.44 Anglia Air Watch (359626) 11.55 Movie Magic (220152)

SC Starts: 7.00am The Big Breakfast (50881) 9.00 Ysgolion (220794) 11.30 Powerhouse (9084)

12.00 Sesame Street (84959) 12.30pm Ricki Lake (47571) 1.00 Slot Melthrin (11214238) 1.15 Tie Toc (20789143)

1.30 Avondale Dogs (44089862) 1.50 Film: Rotten to the Core (82700152) 3.30 Collectors' Lot (713) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (220)

4.30 Pantoland (404) 5.00 5 Pump (8508881) 5.15 Pfell (5166133)

5.30 Countdown (864) 6.00 Newyddion (935268) 6.10 Heno (388572) 7.00 Pobol v Cwm (663713) 7.25 Fiermio (925572) 8.00 Slope (7404)

8.30 Newyddion (6539) 9.00 Cracker (5133) 10.00 Brookside (106688) 10.35 Babylon 5 (376510) 11.30 CVbIII (50201)

12.30am Lloyds Bank Film Challenge 12.45 Fresh Pop (5398331) 12.50 Under the Moon (90453331)

4.30 Lumberjacks OKI (26114)

5.00-5.30 Screaming Reels (71176)

comedy drems set in Edinburgh, based man and his so-called friends - a bunch of losers, liars, psychos, thieves and (232268)11.50 Drop Dead Gorgeous The stand-up

comedian Steve Moore on stage (229423) 12.50em Under the Moon Through-the-night sports magazine (90453331)

4.30 Lumberjacks OK! Twelve of the world's top logger sportsmen (1/6) (r) (26114) 5.00 Screening Reels Angling series (r) (T)

5.30 Schools: Geographical Eye (1139319)

CHANNEL 5

CHANNEL 5 ON SATELLITE Channel 5 is now broadcasting on transponder No 63 on the Astra Satellite. transponder No 63 on the Astra Satellite. Viewers with a Videocrypt decoder will be able to receive the channel tree of charge. Frequencies for transponder No 63 are picture: 10.92075 GHz; sound: 7.02 and 7.20 MHz

6.00am 5 News Early (2283133) 7.30 Milikshake (4946775) 7.35 Stickln' Around (6347626) 8.00 Havakazoo (r)

8.30 WideWorld How computer networks and e-mail are changing the way people work (4/5) (2990012)

(4/5) (2990012)
9,00 Espresso (2235978) 10,00 Exclusive (8325930) 10,30 Close Encounters — 24 Hours in Deepest Dulwich (r) (8590255)
11,00 Leezs Chat show hosted by Leezs Gibbons (7980084) 11,50 Double Espresso (94164084) 12,00 The Bold and the Beautiful (f) (4895648) 12,30pm Family Affairs (r) (7) (8177317)

Family Affairs (r) (T) (8177317) 1.00 5 News Update (16498323) 1.05 Sunset Beach (T) (3959591) 2.00 5's Company (8934959)

3.30 Once Upon a Honeymoon (1942, b/w) staming Cary Grant and Ginger Rogers. A comedy adventure set in Europe during the Second World War. Directed by Leo McCarey (2294249)

5.30 Whittle Audience participation game show (T) (3321539) 6.00 100 Per Cent Quiz game show without a

6.30 Family Affairs Duncan and Melania decide that Holly needs a man; Angus believes that his relationship with Helen is

over (T) (3302404) 7.00 Exclusive with Sarah Cox. includes an Interview with Wesley Snipes (5900978) 7.30 Dwellers of the Deep: Sea of Eden Documentary on Palau, an archipelago of around 200 Islands in the Pacific (T)

8.00 Instant Gardens William Van Hague and his team complete work started last week on an exotic roof terrace (5919626)



Robin Williams in trouble (9,00pm)

9.00 Cadillac Man (1990) starring Robin Williams. A comedy about a womenising car salesman in trouble with his former wite, his girlfriends and his boss. Directed 10.50 The Jack Docherty Show Chat and

comedy (6107713) 11.35 Prisoner: Cell Block H (8476539) 12.35am Live and Dangerous Includes American college Tootball (32084331)

4.35 The Streets of San Francisco starring

Karl Malden and Michael Douglas (T) (7053553)

5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (2216843)

• For further listings see Saturday's Vision

SKY 1

5.00am Morring Glory (5):1317) 9.90 Hotel (1820) 10.00 Another World (48828) 11.90 Days of Our Lives (82404) 12.00 Oprah Wintery (48572) 1.000pc Geraldo (5420) 2.00 Sely Jessy Rephael (4080) 3.00 Jenny Jones (67046) 4.00 Oprah Wintery (7986) 18.00 Star Tres' (vayager (8201) 6.00 Dream Teem (5539) 6.30 Manied with Children (9891) 7.00 The Simpson's (830) 7.30 The Simpson's (5775) 6.00 The Simpson's (2876) 6.30 The Simpson's (2876) 6.30 Manied with Children (5805) 9.30 Manied with Children (5805) 9.30 Manied with Children (5805) 9.30 Manied with Children (5805) 10.00 mm in the Heat of the Night (38466) 2.00 Long Play (507805) SKY MOVIES SCREEN 1

8.00mm Warrins and Effect (1995) (41997) 7.30 Out of Time (1995) (99572) 9.30 Topaz (1989) 83307152) 1.135The Garry (1989) (25372220) 1.50pm Item Return of Tommy Tricker (1994) 50336) 3.30 Ment-ha and Ethel (1995) (3542) 5.00 Limie Women (1994) (45084) 7.00 Gold Objects (99831) 9.00 The handcant Sleep (1995) (99839) 11.00 Refections on a Crime (1994) (294282) 12.35em Impocent Lies (1996) (842000) 2.05 Bandolerol (1996) (73114) 3.50 Rise Sky (1996) (83550060)

5.00mm Lineky Me (1954) (45978) 8.00 Red Topa (1995) (2787981) 9.15 Scarlet Flower (1991) (8565182) 16.30 Newer Cive Up: The Jimmy V Stery (1968) (9959) 12.00 The Palm Beach Story (1942) (32775) 2.00pm Lucky Me (1954) (51238) 4.00 Thm Wardor: Trapped on Toy World (1995) (8775) 6.00 Never Sire Up: The Jimmy V Story (1966) (31539) 8.00 The Scarlet Litter (1996) (32575510) 10.20 Primat Fear (1996) (32579510) 10.20 Primal Fear (1996) (32579510) 12.35em Quiz Show (1994) (51239783) 2.50 & Wass Higg or Us (1994) (5669) 4.25 Moontrek (1964) (258,447) SKY MOVIES GOLD

The Control of the Co

Same (1972) (2795331) 1.30em School Dame (1996) (2795821) 3.30 Buffy Sm. Vancatre Shaver (1985) (22797821)

9.00pm Sacal on Sogart (4715317) 19.45 To Have sed Have Not (1944) (14674336) 12.45em Random Harvest (1942) (17841669) 3.00 The Hawating (1963) (31596911) 5.00 Close SKY SPORTS 1

7.00mm Sports Centre (29959) 7.30 Whes-fing (64962) 8.30 Sports Centre (45423) 9.00 Record Nave (35775) 9.30 Aerobics (70907) 10.00 The Footballers' Football Show (37978) 11.36 Testan Edra (29125) 11.30: V-Miss (79694) 12.00 Aerobics (56539) 12.30pm Rugby Uhone: European XV y All Blacks (45249) 2.30 This Football-ers' Football Show (53625) 3.30 FA Cup (4830) 8.00 Whesting (5125) 6.00 Sports Centre (6065) 6.30 Fulbol Mundial (7317) 7.00 Chicket: World Measters (459404) 10.00 Sports Centre (67288) 10.30 Fulbol Mundial 7.00 Cricles: World Mesters (46940) 1 Use Sports Carrier (57258) 10.30 Pubbl Mundial (3688) 11.00 Pool (36907) 12.00 Sports Carrier (58911) 12.30am Sport LISA (56978) 2.00 Pubbl Mundial (62534) 2.30 Sports Centre (81688) 3.00 Close SKY SPORTS 2

7.80em Aerobbs (5088181) 7:30 Sports. Centre (2018848) 8:00 Racing Name (812775) 8:30 Fish TV (9913997) 9:30 Survival of the Fillest (9287125) 10:00-Crickel (7368539) 1:00pm FA Cup (8228423) 2:30 Golf Eura (1175401) 6:00 Rabel Sports (6239810) 7:00 Sports Centre (2178931) 7:30 Golf Eura (1018901) 4:00 Hisbel Sports (8229910) 7.00 Sports Centre (2178607) 7.30 Golf Extra (7082220) 11.00 Rebel Sports (5288389) 12.00 Cricket Australis v New Zeelend — Uve (8489465) 2.00em Sports Centre (4087319) 2.30 Cricket — Live (6735843) SKY SPORTS 3

TV (62446897) 2.00 Superitions (57505) Germet (50303442) 3.30 Showpumping (95792852) 5.30 Pool (35535289) 6.30 Olfshore Powerboats (50582046) 7.00 Pahr. 95782822 5.30 Pool (3553528) 6.30 Offshore Powerboats (57662946) 7.00 Febr TV (9909171) 8,00 Sport USA (34285317) 9.30 Windswifing (62430979) 10.00 Sportratis (69002794) 10.30 Golden Agis of Motor Racing (42950978) 11.30 Cines EUROSPORT

7.30mm Eurogoals (79794) 9.06 Dolombanman (56982) 16.00 UEFA Cup

(85539) 12.00 Wheeles Magazine (41607)
12.30pm ATP Tour Review (89891) 1.00
Frantie Magazine (46525) 1.30 XTerm
(88682) 2.00 Sarqbonding (5984) 2.00
Seyauring (4684) 3.00 X-Garnes (79648)
4.00 Fin Sports (4084) 4.30 UEFA Cup
(302982) 7.00 Jump the Stat Sesson
Review (40085) 8.00 Derts (59713) 3.00
Boding (4684) 4.30 Trial (48535) 11.00 X-Garnes (25249) 12.30em Otose NK GOLD

VIX GOLD

7.00em Worzel Gurrentige (7290969) 7.35
Neighbours (8994442) 8.00 Crossronals
(3769930) 8.25 EastEnders (1163607) 9.00
The Bit (8608794) 9.30 Howards Way
(8938192) 10.00 Bines This House
(8951510) 10.30 The Sutherne (8602978)
11.30 Boon (4605094) 12.20 Crossronals
(14477510) 12.25 Neighbours (14487997)
12.55 EastEnders (1739907) 1.30 Hb-c+Hi
(3003442) 2.10 Yes Minister (7593794) 2.50
The Sign (7519930) 4.00 Judiet Brazel
(78572775) 5.05 EastEnders (8998404)
5.40 Rull House (795626) 6.25 This's
Showbusiness (8663830) 7.30 Last of the
Summer wine (4200423) 7.45 Don't Wat
Up (6482902) 8.20 Yes Minister (1497794)
8.00 The Sid (1313559) 9.30 Horson
(72507268) 11.40 Live at Jongleum
(8934945) 12.45 Chancer (8166824) 1.40
Milenti Vice (3401008) 2.20 Shopping

GRANADA PLUS

8.00m; The Box (8415695) 7.00 Coronation St (8654133) 7.30 Families (8973286) 8.00 Bind Oele (8977619) 9.00 Upoteix, Ownstain: (8662775) 10.00 The Proteosionals (8682152) 11.00 Hart in Hurt (8656889) 12.00 Coronation St (9218274) 12.20pez Ferilies (2491713) 1.00 Sind Dels (2468289) 2.00 Upostains, Coronation St (9218274) 12.20pez (9218289) 2.00 Upostains, Coronation Proteosionals (8247539) 5.00 Hawaii Five-O (1145697) 8.00 Families (2299539) 6.30 Coronation St (2263591) 7.00 Bind date (7841888) 8.00 Hart to Hurt (7356336) FMBC (1140997) 8080 FMBC (2005086) 6.30 Coronation St (225597) 7.00 Bind data (7841838) 8.00 Hunt to Hunt (7850336) 9.00 Coronation St (225423) 9.30 Husto and Pace (2482248) 10.00 Hustol Five-O (7840856) 11.00 Close

CARLTON SELECT (cable) 6.00pm Gndock (30380591) \$.50 Hey Ded 9.5569713; s.00 Birchbusters (55695629; 8.30 A Country Proptice (5567978) 7.00 Switch On (50300955) 7.30 DEFa Champions League — Live (80225404) 10.00



St Elsewhere (84047265) 12.00 Collins and Maccrie's Movie Cab (15519824) 12.30mm Tales of the Unexpected (34270485) 1.00 Close DISNEY CHANNEL

6.00em Drambo's Circle, 6.30 Under the Unbreille Tree 7.00 Aleddin The Saries 7:30 Cueck, Pack 8.00 Directors 8.30 Society 8.00 Cummi Beas 8.30 Grounding Mersh 9.55 Small Stones 10.00 Section Street 11.00 Winnis the Poorh 11.15 Roses and Jim 11.35 Sing Me a Story with Belle 12.00 Tols TV 12.20pm Disney Animated Shorts 12.25 The Big Garage 12.45 Winning the Poorh 1.00 Section Street 12.45 Wirnie the Poots 1.00 Se 2.00 Medicine Adventures — Growing Up Wild 2.30 Gurmin Beers 3.00 Tale Spin 3.30 Goof Troop 4.00 Tirron and Purrisus 4.30 Aladdri' The Sense 5.00 Gargoyles: The Cotath Chronicles 5.30 Directure 6.00 Blossom 6.30 Boy Meets World 7.00 Hume Improvement 7.30 The Wonder Years 8.00 PLINE Richard Cat in the World 9.30

FOX KIDS NETWORK 6.00mm Deliy and His Friends 6.30 Billy the Rider 9.00 The Magic Box 9.30 Ducley the Dragon 16.00 Inspector Gadget 10.30 Samura Pizza Cais 11.00 Sweet Valley High 12:00 Aco Vertura 12:30pm Casper 1.00 The Tick 1:30 from Man 2:00 Fantastic-Four 2:30 Power Rengers Zeo 3:00 Big Bati Bedjeborgs 3:30 Masked Fider 4:00 Aco Ventura 4:30 Casper 5:00 The Tick 5:30 X man 6.30 Sweet Va

6.00mm Hoppily Ever Alter 6.20 Bobby's World 7.00 Sphrou 7.30 Dorms the Monaco 8.00 Behman 6.30 Bots Master 9.00 An Ansad: 9.30 Enrinworm Jim 10.00 Greedale High 10.30 Fisich Gordon 21.00 Jonogoud 11.30 Greentor 12.00 Behman 1.30 pen Bots Master 1.00 Behman 1.30 Ext. 2.00 Sphrou 2.30 Fisish Gordon 3.30 Sonic 3.30 Earthworm Jim 4.00 Derms the Masses 4.30 An Assad: 5.00 Class: CARTOON NETWORK

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All your lengurity cartoons brandcast from 6,00mm to 9,00pm, saven days a week.

Monsters 7,00 Hey Arnold 7,30 Rugrats 6,00 Doug 8,30 Neveranding Story 9,00 CBSC 10,00 Wimze's House 10,30 Babar 1.00 Magic School Bus 11,30 Barranes in Pyrama 12.00 Paddington Beer std: 12.30pm unter Red Tractor etc. 1,00 To Souss 1.30 Unte Beer Stories 2.00 Animal Show 2.30 CBBC 3.30 RockyDoug 4.00 Angy Beavers 4.30 Rugress 5.00 Sets Sister 5.30 Kenan end Kei 6.00 Sebria th Teenage Witch 6.30 Moeshe 7.00 Close TROUBLE 12.00pm Swan's Crossing 12.30 Ready of Not 1,00 Madison 1,30 California Dreams Not 1.00 Madison 1.30 California Dreams 2.00 Seved by the Bell 2.20 Seven's Crossing 3.00 Beat 3.30 Ready or Not 4.00 Seved by the Bell 4.30 USA High 5.00 Hangtone 5.30 California Dreams 6.00 Beast 6.30 Medicon 7.00 Hangtone 7.30 USA High 8.00 Close

CHALLENGE TV S.DOpic Cross Wiss 5.39 Say the Word 6.00 Family Fortunes 6.30 Catchphrase 7.15 The \$64,000 Question 8.00 Spit Second 8.30 Move on Up 8.15 Winner Tales All 10,00 Treasure Hunt 11.15 White 12.00 Say the Word 12.30mm Hart to Hart 1.30 The Big Yalley 2.30 Big Brother July 3.00 Boogles Dries 3.30 Whate I Live 4.00 Junit Sans Frontiers 5.00 Screenshop

8.00pm A-Team (8043317) 9.00 Tour of Duty (6056981) 10.00 Red Shoe Dienes (9432442) 10.45 FILIS: Remitte III (4941084) 12.45 em Tour of Duty (7354682) 1.45 Red Shoe Dienes (7218078) 2.30 FILIS: Remitte III (4674000) 4.30 The Head FILM: Rambo III (4674008) 4.30 T) (2870447) S.00 A-Team (8866553) PARAMOUNT COMEDY

7.80pm Grace Under Pira (9045) 7.30 Rossanne (7171) 8.00 Ellen (8794) 8.30 Cybil (7201) 8.00 Cheere (8824/2) 9.25 Doppetganger (67962/9) 8.30 Taxi (52201) 10,00 Frasier (48510) 10.30 Taxi (52201) 10,00 Frasier (48510) 11.00 Geyle's World (132045) 11.25 Doppetganger (497510) 11.30 Ellen (14715) 12.00 Rossanne (82583) 12.30em Nightstand (43176) 1.00 (95295) 12.34ms regressing (45176) 1.30 Soap (18640) 1.30 Test (48379) 2.30 Gayle's World (50176) 2.30 Grace Under Fire (72911) 3.00 Frasie: (17896) 2.30 The Kenny Everet Show (63263) 4.00 Cose

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL 8.00pm Soldings (4122607) \$180 Th Making of Alien. Resumention (2002268) 9.30 Fit.M: Drumnetion Alley (1977) (9008572) 11.00 Friday the 13th (2435607) 12.00 Sprilings (8271350) 1.00em The Twilight Zone (8263050) 1.30 Tales of the Unexpected (5972260) 2.80 Dark Shedows (854962) 2.30 New Alfred Historock (1673027) 3.00 Findey the 13th (7378331) HOME & LEISURE 9.00em The Joy of Painting (8604336) 9.30 Garden Club (9634794) 10.00 The Greet

Gardening Rol (9859152) 10.30 New Yankse Workshop (8893220) 11.00 Rea. Hunt Specials (1334065) 11.30 Hometime (1325794) 12.00 Wheel Alus (9838510) 1.00 Yan Can Cook (4807442) 1.30 Doing II Up (6881249) 2.30 The Furniture Guys (6881249) 2.30 Room for Improvement (7545355) 3.00 Two's Country (6893084) 3.30 Home Again (7517572) 4.00 Close DISCOVERY

4,00pm The Dioerren (7536607) 4,30 Roadshow (7525591) 5,00 Tressure Hunt-ers (8865201) 5,30 Beyond 2000 (7549171) 6,00 Wild Discovery Beyond the Stur (9613201) 7,00 Anthur C. Clarke's Mysteri-ous Universe (6885065) 7,30 Disaster (7526220) 8,00 Anthur C. Clarke's Mysteri-ous Universe (6994713) 8,30 Super Natural (8732929) 9,00 Mustery of the Ancest Ones ous Universe (694713) 8.30 Super Natural (6873229) 9.00 Mystery of the Ancient Ones (5063355) 10.00 Discovery Signature: Titerias (6062442) 11.00 Extreme Machines (4884591) 1.200 Flightline (3473521) 1.200 Flightline (3473521) 1.200 Disaster (6895756) 1.30 Beyond 2000 (2562006) 2.00 Close NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

7.00pm Wild lialy Land of the Chamois (7935510) 7.30 Race for the Palio (560668) 8.00 Jane Goodal Night The

(Sobses) July 2019 Coloral Wight III Lile and Legand of Jane Goodal (221236) 9,00 Jane Goodal Night Brutal Kinship (292572) 10,00 Jane Goodal Night Arrong the Wild Chumpartees (320255) 11,00 Wild Italy Land of the Chemos (2070737) 12,20am Race for the Palo (2070737) 12,20am Race for the Palo (2070737) 12,20am Race for the Palo TRAVEL (cable)

12.00pm Travel Live 1.00 Dominikas Planet 1.00 Pathfinders 2.00 Snow Salan 2.30 No Truckin' Holiday 3.00 Roef World 3.30 Oceana 4.00 Australian Gourmet Tour 4.30

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

CARLTON FOOD (cable) 12.00pm Food Network Daty 12.30 The Restaurant Show 1.00 Food for Thought 1.90 From the Ground Up 2.00 Rose's Foreign Assignment 2.30 Food Network Daty 3.00 Alive and Cooling 3.30 Graham Kan's Ruten 4.00 Alive Italian Job 4.30 Rutsle's Real Cooks 5.00 Close

LIVING 6.00em Tiny Living 9.00 I Dream of Jeannie 6,00em Tiny Lwing 9,001 Dream of Jeannie 9,30 The Gordon Flindt Show 10,15 Jerry Springer 11,00 The Young and the Restless 11,50 Brooksofe 12,20pm Why Me? 1,00 Tempest 1,50 Ready, Steedy, Cook 2,30 Chesp Chr. 3,00 Live at Three 4,05 Jerry Crisigo Ciric and Dily is in the exist series (Springer 5,00 Robonds 5,50 Lucky Ladders 6,20 Ready, Steady, Cook 7,00 Hearts Afric 7,30 Mysteries, Magic end Miracles 8,00 Adrianairs Jurilyses 9,00 Halifax (p. 11,00 The Sex Files (I 12,00 Close

ZEE TV 6.30am Nager Pane Roop Nager 7.00 Jaagren 7.30 Ghoomta Aaina 8.00 ZEE Business News and Music 8.30 Reahat 9.00 Manatr 9.30 Panchayat 10.00 Tara 11.00 The Low Cal Show 11.30 Hum Aao 11.00 The Low Cal Show 11.30 Hum Aap Ke Ham Woh 12.00 Dataser 12.30pm Rashal 1.00 Urdu Fil.Mr Narasz 3.30 Ek Nazar 4.00 Public Demand 5.00 ZEE Zone 5.30 Year Do Pench 6.00 ZEE end You 7.00 Liberty 7.30 Banegi Apri Bast 8.00 Neus and Euroneus 8.30 Dastash 9.00 Pal Do Pal 10.00 Film Bastein 10.30 ZEE Hat Penade 11.00 Purush Kisheka 11.30 Siz-ziter 12.00 Closs

200% 12.00 Close

SIMON BARNES 50 Facing up to the full force of All Black aggression



WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 26 1997

Makinen does just enough to retain crown after Scot's third RAC Rally triumph

McRae's world falls apart despite victory

SOMETIMES, winning is not enough. Colin McRae could do no more yesterday, achieving his third successive world championship victory by tak-ing the Network Q RAC Rally for the third time in four years and doing it with supreme style and fortitude. It was the performance of a champion, but McRae left Cheltenham without the crown. His destiny had never been

entirely controllable. McRae had required more than one final, Herculean effort this week, he had also been reliant on the misfortune of another. There were times, as his adversary battled with the type of influenza not entirely reconcilable with driving at 130mph through fogbound when it seemed that luck, if not justice, might befriend him. Tommi Makinen, however,

is as unyielding a character as McRae and he clung on reso-lutely to the sixth place that. for him, was as elating as victory itself. The one world championship point that Makinen earned is all that separated him from McRae in the stark, statistical analysis of a stirring, II-month season.

Obviously, I'm disappointed," McRae said, with understatement, "but it was always a bit of a long shot. If we couldn't win the championship, winning our home rally was good compensation and I'm not interested in looking back now, only forward to next year."

McRae and his Welsh codriver, Nicky Grist, won five championship rallies to Makinen's four, but were left to reflect on a barren sequence in and technical failings conspired to keep them pointless at four consecutive events. "It was a disaster in some ways." Grist said, "but we have learnt a lot about ourselves and

about the car. We'll be back to win it next year." Makinen, the 33-year-old Firm, had looked certain to retain the title he first won last year when he led McRae by 20 points with only three rallies remaining. Wins for the Scot

in Italy and Australia had reduced his deficit to ten points entering this final event, his specialist subject. stacked massively in Makinen's favour and, with a re-straint alien to the image of his sport, he concentrated on driving for a point.

McRae always looked the likely winner and yesterday, once his persistent challenger,

minutes to a puncture, it McRae, who lost his lead

Richard Burns, from Oxford-

shire, had lost almost five

three times over three days but responded tenaciously on each occasion, cruised through the homecoming stage back at Cheltenham racecourse with a final margin of 2min 47sec over Juha Kankkunen. As an individual performance, it was unsurpassable: as means to the end craved by tens of thousands of his supporters, it was crushingly frustrating.

Aware that Makinen had the additional insurance of his team-mate, Burns, being able to drop back in placings if required. McRae was resigned to narrow failure long before the rally ended. He declined to look back in anger. "In this sport, you can never say what might have been, "We had our problems in midgood run since."

McRae had begun the second day with his only serious

scrape, a meeting with a ditch that saw him descend from first place to eighth. In yet more fog, he began the third day more cautiously, conceding 14 seconds to Burns in the hills above Rhonnda. Daylight brought deliverance. On the third stage, Burns, whose reputation has been greatly enhanced in this rally, suffered his puncture, allowing McRae the decisive break.

Typically, McRae was ambivalent about his fortune. "It was a relief, because it took the pressure off, but it was also disappointing," he said. "It looked like we would have a really good battle." Evidently. not one for the quiet life.

After the longest stage of the week, 29 miles across the largely open moorland of Resolfen, McRae had established a lead in excess of two minutes. For the pursuing pack, the game was up. Attention switched to Makinen, whose medical bulletins had been received as avidly as

"He is worse this morning." Andrew Cowan, the Mitsu-bishi manager, intoned. "His chest is solid, he can't even cough any more." He was not, however, about to produce a sicknote and retire to his bed.

With a cushion of more than a minute, Makinen continued to do just enough, an exercise in self-denial. Only when he reached the racecourse, his title safe, did he indulge himself with a skittish, exuberant burst that saw his car spin off, harmlessly, on the final "It was always going to be a

just for the point," Makinen said. "but this flu added to the problems. It could have been a problem if I'd needed more than one point because I really don't feel good. I think I have got to sleep, maybe for the next few days."

difficult rally for me, driving

When he wakes, it will be to reflect on the closest finish to a world championship since 1979 and to contemplate the fact that life will get no easier with McRae on his tail.

FROM RUSSELL KEMPSON

IT WAS not the result that

Brian Little, the Aston Villa

manager, had envisaged to

mark his 44th birthday and

charge of the side, but he will

have emerged relatively satis-

fied from the heat of the

Steaua Stadium here last

It appeared ominous when

Steaua Bucharest went 2-0

ahead midway through the

first half of this Uefa Cup third

round, first-leg tie, but Dwight

Yorke's precious away goal could prove decisive in the

return leg at Villa Park in a

Villa's trip to the stadium on

and Ugo Ehiogu. Mihai

Stoichita, the Steauz coach.

was also reportedly upset that

Doug Ellis, the Villa chair-

country of street children.

formight.

Aston Villa ...



McRae's success in his home rally was eclipsed by the efforts of Makinen, below, who took the championship by one point

		The state of the state of	Y FINISHED
			SWORD & SHADOW ON SHIP
i	C MicRae	(GB, Subaru) 3hr 54min 31sec	2 CMcRee 63pt
2	J Kestianer	(Fin, Ford) 3:57:18	3 644
3	C Seinz	(Sp., Ford) 3:58:24	S. a. Maritaman
4	2 Burns	(GB, Mitsubishi)	5 5 K Erikessen (Swe, Subaru) 2
5	M Grockolm	(Fin, Toyota) 4:00:43	6 Lietti <u>2</u> 7 Bures 2
9	T Matthew	(Fin, Mitsubishi) : 4:01:31	8 A Schencz (Ger. Ford) 1
7	PLiatti	(It_Subaru) 4:03:11	9 F Letx (Bol, Toyota) (10 G Paulizzi (Fr. Paugaot)
8	A Virtagen	(Fig. Ford) 4:11:59	A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR
	A McRae	(GB, Volkswegen)	1 Subaru 114ots

farther behind when Rotariu

crossed from the right. Ciocoiu, celebrating his 22nd

birthday and in a game in

which he had not been expect-

ed to start, was again un-

marked and this time needed

no such fortune. His delight-

ful overhead kick, performed

with precision and power, gave Oakes no chance

defence. After the interval they again pushed forward, but

Nelson wasted a chance to

centre, with Yorke, Wright and Milosevic waiting in the

middle, when he stipped over,

Villa also survived a scare

when Scimeca nudged Laca-

tus over in the area, but the

penalty appeals were ignored.

nate in the 52nd minute.

Munteanu, aided by a deflec-

tion, wriggled into the area and unleashed a shot from an

acute angle. It thumped

against the bar, with Oakes

comfortably beaten, before re-

In the next minute, Villa

made the most of their let-off.

Wright passed to Milosevic and his curling, left-foot cross

fell perfectly for the unmarked Yorke, who headed into the

corner of the net. Apart from

the small pocket of Villa fans,

STEALA BUCHAREST (2-6-2): Z Rist — Clais, V Reches, I May — L. Regnecento Poteva, E Lindar (sub: L. Hob, 60 han), Martierra, D. Malena: — At Leonius, Cocola (sub: M. Luce, 75).

the stadium fell silent.

bounding to safety.

Villa were even more fortu-

Villa responded positively but frequently ran out of ideas when faced by Steama's solid



Bruno to consider a new career

By SRIKHMAR SEN DOXING CORRESPONDENT Licento sel

Sim

- - 62.14

in her .

FRANK BRUNO is thinking about starting a new career in boxing -on the other side of the ropes. He has had talks ecretary of the Southern Area Coucil, for the papers to apply for a trainer's and promoter's

something to do. I have been talking to George Francis [his trainer] for a long time.

Francis believes that appetite for hard work and a name

The first thing is that Frank is a workabolic, that is why I think he would do well." Francis said. He's got the finance to back it as well and he's got good connections. This will be good for him, psychologic

Those who know the money side of the business believe that Bruno has the credentials to be successful. Frank Warren, who was Bruno's last promoter, said: "I'm delighted he's staying in boxing. Promoting is a difficult business, you've got to be prepared to lose dedicated, hell be successful. And Bruno certainly gives his all."

The other leading promoter in Britain, Frank Maloney, of Panix agreed that Bruno was sufficiently hardworking to flourish in promoting. "I welcome him," Maloney said. pockets and be prepared o work 24 hours a day." His test will come when

he starts at the bottom. The cautionary note regarding the financial side of promoting could cause Bruno to put his promoting ambitions on hold and see first how he fares as a trainer.

OSSWORD

No 1261

ACROSS Leninist (9)

- 6 Hauk coarse fibres (3)
- 8 Toulouse Paris painter (7) Courage; audacity (5) 10 Warm Alpine wind (4) 11 Unwanted post (4.4)
- 13 Be reluctant to leave (6) 14 Directed: (ished (6)
- 17 A damned, a pathetic person (4,4) 18 Defiberate insult (4) 20 Horse attendant; one mar-
- rying (5) 21 Skill: gallantry (7)
- 22 Tibetan beast (3) 23 Bad reputation (9)

SOLUTION TO NO 1260 ACROSS: 1 Pavilion 5 Bats 9 Discard 10 Irons 11 Bail 12 Average 14 Ignite 16 Run out 19 Fatigue 21 Ball 24 Stump 25 Thimble 26 Rope 27 Boundary DOWN: 1 Pads 2 Vista 3 Leaflet 4 Ordeal 6 Avocado 7 Suspects B Wide 13 Diffuser 15 No trump 17 Umbrian 18 Gentoo 20 Gape 22 Libra 23 Deny

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- Menacing, malignant (7) Object of derision (8,5)
- 3 Fling (4)
- 5 Monster ape (1933 film)
- 6 Deliberately overlook 4.1.5.31
- Monday night ended in distasteful fashion when 300 7 Part of car, pivoting move-Steaua supporters jeered and ment (5) directed racist insults at Yorke
- 12 One from Principality (8) 15 Claude --, Fr. composer (7)
- 16 Glove toy (6)
- 17 Having long limbs (5) 19 Uncouth person (4)

orphanage was, nevertheless, Villa were also greeted by a hostile reception when the teams walked out onto the pitch, the shrill whistles and catcalls of the home fans quickly creating an intimidating atmosphere. A pall of

smoke from their firecrackers hung over the ground. None of which appeared to

on course for last eight the post and rebounded against Oakes's arm before on the slippery surface that had been heavily watered overnight, Taylor, as expected. trickling into the net. In the 31st minute, Villa fell

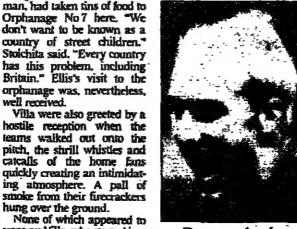
Yorke's goal keeps Villa

was preferred to Charles and, longside Draper, he helped Villa to settle with some gently probing runs from midfield. Wright crossed from the left but Ritli, the Steaua goalkeep-

er, was able to punch clear. albeit unconvincingly, as Yorke waited for the header. Yorke then sliced a shot woefully wide after finding space on the edge of the area and Draper should also have done better after cleverly threading the ball through Rachita's legs, only to drag his effort past Ritti and an upright.

Little had been seen of Steaux, apart from Militaru's fierce 25-yard free kick that fizzed over Oakes's crossbar. From nowhere, though, they suddenly found themselves 2-0 ahead in the space of three

First, Munteanu fed a pass through to Lacatus, who looked suspiciously offside, and his cross was volleyed goalwards by Ciocoiu from an



Draper: early miss

FA bans **Petit for** one more match

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

EMMANUEL PETIT, the Arsenal midfield player, was yesterday fined £1,000 and given a further one-match ban for laying his hands on Paul Durkin, the referee, during the FA Carling Premiership match against Aston Villa last The suspension will not

apply until December 15, which means Petit can play in Arsenal's matches against Liverpool, Newcastle United and Blackburn Rovers, but not against Wimbledon. The puny-tailed Frenchman

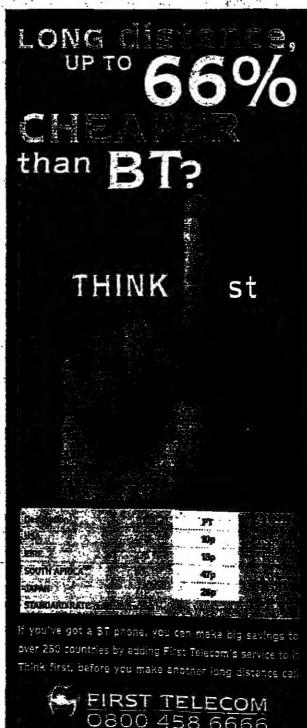
was sent off by the Portland-based official for putting his hands on him in the final minutes of the goalless home draw with Villa. Durkin said after the match that Petit had been dismissed

for "violent conduct", leading to an automatic three-match Petit, who was charged by the Football Association with

misconduct, pleaded guilty at a disciplinary hearing at Lancaster Gate yesterday. He will return from the

three-match ban for the home game against Liverpool on Sunday. Arsenal will also welcome back Dennis Bergkamp from suspension and are hopeful that Ray Parlour will have recovered from a knee injury sustained against Sheffield Wednesday last . Wednesday last

Saturday. However, Arsenal may face further disciplinary problems. ASTON VILLA (3-4-1-2): M Carlos — U Erlogu, S Stunion, R Serrecs — F Netern (sub G Charles 467, M Draper, I Taylor, A Winght — D Yorks — S Cothymon, 5 Microsnic. lan Wright, the England striker, needs one more caution to qualify for an automatic three-



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